



Italy and the Sustainable Development Goals



ASviS Report 2018





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This report was produced - under the supervision of the ASviS Director, Enrico Giovannini - thanks to contributions from experts involved in member organisations of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development, who were divided into thematic working groups. We would particularly like to thank:

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- **the ASviS Secretariat representatives for the working groups:** Leonardo Alaimo, Martina Alemanno, Flavia Belladonna, Claudia Caputi, Davide Ciferri, Giuliana Coccia, Carla Collicelli, Antonino Costantino, Giulia D'Agata, Riccardo Della Valle, Luigi Ferrata, Stefano Furlan, Fadi Hassan, Giulio Lo Iacono, Giulio Marcon, Flavio Natale, Patricia Navarra, Federico Olivieri, Ottavia Ortolani, Lucilla Persichetti, Donato Speroni, Andrea Stefani, Flavia Terribile.

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NOTE TO THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE 2018 ASVIS REPORT

The 2018 edition of the ASviS Report was published on October 4th 2018. This English translation, finalized in April 2019, does not introduce new data nor analyses, but serves as a demonstration of the work of ASviS for international stakeholders.

Introduction

In the coming weeks, with the next Budget Law, Italy will take important decisions about its future, partly in the light of the priorities set out by the new government. The strength and characteristics of economic growth, the greater or lesser degree of equality between the various social groups within the current generation and between the generations, infrastructure investment policies and the nature of the tax system will depend, at least in part, on these priorities. Likewise, in the coming months, following Parliamentary elections and the subsequent appointment of the members of the Commission, the European Union will be called upon to choose which path to take for its future, with respect to institutional arrangements, but also in terms of how it allocates the 2021-2027 Budget to the various priorities. Finally, also at global level, there are different opposing views on how to solve the economic, environmental and social problems (such as migration) on which the future of the world depends, with significant divisions between those who prefer a multilateral approach to the issues, and those who insist on seeking bilateral agreements with "variable geometries" depending on the issue under discussion.

This is the highly complex backdrop to the presentation of the Report of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS) for 2018, which sets out to provide an integrated and original analysis of Italy's progress (and, from this year, that of its various regions) towards implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda that was signed by 193 countries on 25 September 2015. The Report also makes concrete proposals for improving our country's economic, social and environmental performance and reducing the stark inequalities we are experiencing. For the third consecutive year, on the basis of sound statistical data, the ASviS Report shows how far Italy is from meeting the 17 ambitious Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 targets which have such a tangible impact on people's lives, as well as the steps taken over the last twelve months in terms of legislative and administrative measures.

The Report also illustrates the extraordinary upsurge in the interest Italian society is showing in sustainable development issues, as witnessed by the growing numbers of ASviS members (currently 225, an increase of 50 on a year ago), the events and initiatives organised around the country, the growing numbers of university courses and school educational projects dedicated to this topic, and the success of Italy's second Sustainable Development Festival. ASviS, which is unique within the international arena, now works alongside a large number of institutions, businesses, universities and research centres, local authorities and civil society organisations which have chosen the 2030 Agenda as a framework for transforming Italy, Europe and the world.

The key message emerging from the Report is one of both concern and hope. Concern for the build-up over the past three years of political delays in choosing sustainable development as a common perspective for tackling Italy's many problems in an integrated way. Hope because many economic and social actors, as well as many individuals, have made such a transition by changing their models of business, production and consumption and their conduct, resulting in obvious benefits, including those of an economic nature.

The ASviS Report is a unique document at both national and international level, resulting from the efforts of the hundreds of experts who participate in the Alliance's working groups. While expressing our heartfelt thanks to Enrico Giovannini and all those who have contributed to the preparation of the Report for 2018, we would like to offer this document to Italian politicians and society, in the belief that it may be a source of inspiration for defining the innovative policies that will enable Italy to be among the most virtuous countries in fulfilling the commitment enshrined in the 2030 Agenda.

Pierluigi Stefanini, *President of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development*

Executive summary

We are not doing enough. Looking at the available data and concrete actions adopted in the last three years, it is clear that the world, Europe and Italy will hardly honour the commitments undertaken before the UN with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development on September 25th, 2015. Notwithstanding the improvement registered in various global economic and social indicators and the measures adopted by many countries, businesses and cities, the world has not yet shown the “cultural discontinuity” and the strategic decision-making approach necessary to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all global leaders agreed to. And not just because we are only twelve years away from 2030. In fact, beside significant advancements related to investments in renewable energy or the fight against the widespread use of plastic, for instance, we are witnessing worrying trend reversals on issues such as food security and hunger, inequalities, ecosystem quality, climate-induced damage and increasing migration flows following conflicts or extreme weather events.

Europe is not doing enough. Although the European Union is by far the most advanced area of the world in terms of socio-economic and environmental wellbeing, the area with the most stringent environmental and labour protection regulation, and where the rule of law is most secured, a quarter of its population is at risk of poverty and social exclusion, inequalities do not appear to be declining and unemployment and underemployment are very consistent, especially in certain countries. As depicted by the composite indicators elaborated by ASviS, progress towards the SDGs is too slow and in few cases lacking. On the other hand, European institutions have not yet defined how they intend to adopt the 2030 Agenda as a framework for all policies, a key issue on which, despite the many objections and oppositions, the European Commission should present a proposal by the end of the year.

Italy is not doing enough. Political shortcomings are particularly evident, despite the significant mobilisation of the business world, cultural and educational institutions and civil society. The indicators elaborated by ASviS, both at national level and (for the first time) at the level of Italian regions, confirm the country’s unsustainable condition from economic, social, environmental and institutional points of view. Even where significant progress has been achieved, Italy is still very far from reaching the Goals and in some cases the observed trends go in the wrong direction. Adding to all this, the country is characterised by large inequalities in terms of gender, social groups and territories. In particular, according to the latest available data, Italy shows signs of improvement in eight areas: nutrition and sustainable agriculture, health, education, gender equality, innovation, sustainable production and consumption models, fight against climate change, and international cooperation. The situation significantly worsens in relation to: poverty, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities, sustainable cities, and life on land. No significant changes characterize the Goals on clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, life below water, and peace, justice and strong institutions.

The good news is that the Italian society looks increasingly interested in sustainable development, as demonstrated by the stances taken by many relevant economic and social actors, the development of educational programmes in schools and universities, and the number of initiatives aimed at engaging businesses, local communities and individuals on the topics of the 2030 Agenda. Along all of the initiatives undertaken by ASviS, the 2018 edition of the Sustainable Development Festival, with over 700 events organized across Italy from May 22nd to June 7th, was an enormous success that significantly contributed to promoting this change.

The array of policies adopted in Italy in the last twelve months displays significant elements of advancement, such as the introduction of a minimum income scheme (*Reddito di Inclusione*) to reduce poverty, as well as delays and missed opportunities, like in the case of the failed approval, within the past legislature, of the measures on the reduction of land use, the right to water and fair trade, or the failure to enact implementation measures for important laws such as those concerning the Third sector reform and sustainable finance. What still seems to be missing is an integrated policy vision to build an equitable and sustainable future for Italy. The electoral campaign and the political confrontation that led to the establishment of the new Government did not revolve around clear programmes explicitly oriented towards sustainable development.

While ASviS's efforts to engage political parties on the 2030 Agenda, both before and following the electoral confrontation, fostered the adoption of commitments and a growing attention to these issues, no concrete actions were undertaken to allow Italy to catch up with the best international practices in terms of governance of this process. Therefore, from a systemic point of view, ASviS remarks the urgent need to address the following issues:

- Initiate the parliamentary debate on the introduction of the concept of sustainable development among the fundamental principles of the Italian Constitution.
- Implement the Directive signed by the President of the Council of Ministers on March 16th, 2018, and constitute the “National commission for sustainable development” within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.
- Present, along with the next Budget Law, a report on its expected impact on the 12 Equitable and sustainable wellbeing indicators (*BES - Benessere Equo e Sostenibile*), that have recently been introduced into the public budget planning cycle.
- Transform the “Inter-ministerial Committee for Economic Programming” (CIPE) into “Inter-ministerial committee for sustainable development”, to orient public investments to sustainable development.
- Adopt an SDG-based national urban Agenda that can represent the urban ramification of the National Sustainable Development Strategy.
- Establish, within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, a permanent body in charge of designing gender equality policies together with the civil society.
- Define “guidelines” to manage public administrations in line with environmental, social and organizational standards aimed at achieving the SDGs.
- Intervene, through the Budget Law or other normative instruments, to ensure the achievement of the 22 Targets the 2030 Agenda sets for 2020.
- Extend non-financial reporting obligations to medium-sized enterprises to allow them to access the growing flow of investments activated in the context of sustainable finance.

As in the previous editions of this Report, the last chapter illustrates the policies to be undertaken, according to a modern and integrated vision of sustainable development, in relation to seven areas: climate change and energy; poverty and inequalities; circular economy, innovation and labour; human capital, health and education; natural capital and environment quality; cities, infrastructures and social capital; international cooperation. The actions suggested represent concrete proposals, some of which (land use, right to water, ecosystem protection, etc.) draw on the work carried out by the previous Parliament and are therefore attainable in the near future.

The time factor is crucial, as is the cultural choice to pursue sustainable development, a choice that politics should propose to the country beyond divergent opinions on specific issues. Such a choice would drive investments and consumption behaviours, crucial elements at the basis of production and consumption models, with positive economic, social and environmental spillovers.

ASviS will continue contributing to the transformation of our country and the European Union, strengthening its efforts in favour of sustainable development and its collaboration with other Italian and European civil society actors. The diffusion of regional and city-level indicators represents an important contribution to engage the local levels of government into adopting strategies and concrete actions for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Alliance, with its capillary network of members and associates, puts its services at the disposal of local administrations to support their coordinated efforts for an efficient pursuit of sustainable development.

You can download the Italian version of the Report and other documents from:
<http://asvis.it/rapporto-asvis-2018/>

Enrico Giovannini, *Director for the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development*



Glossary

ACP - African, Caribbean and Pacific	DEF - Documento di Economia e Finanza Economic and Financial Planning Document	ODA - Official Development Assistance
AEEGSI - Autorità per l'Energia Elettrica, il Gas e i Servizi Idrici Italian Regulatory Authority for Electricity, Gas and Water	DPCM - Decreto del Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri Presidential Decree	WTO - World Trade Organisation
AgID - Agenzia per l'Italia Digitale Digital Italy Agency	ECOSOC - United Nations Economic and Social Council	WHO - World Health Organisation
AICS - Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo Italian Agency for Development Cooperation	EFSO - European Fund for Sustainable Development	UN - United Nations
AIESEC - Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Économiques et Commerciales International Association for Students of Economics and Commerce	EFSI - European Fund for Strategic Investments	PA - Pubblica Amministrazione Italian Public Administration
ANAC - Autorità Nazionale Anti-Corruzione Italian National Anti-Corruption Authority	EIGE - European Institute for Gender Equality	CAP - Common Agricultural Policy
ANCI - Associazione Nazionale Comuni Italiani National Association of Italian Local Authorities	EIP - External Investment Plan	PAESC - Piano d'Azione per l'Energia Sostenibile e il Clima Action Plan for Sustainable Energy and Climate
ANPAL - Agenzia Nazionale Politiche Attive Lavoro Italian National Agency for Active Labour Market Policies	EIR - Environmental Implementation Review Package	EIP - EU External Investment Plan
API - Application Programming Interface	ENEA - Agenzia Nazionale per le Nuove tecnologie, l'Energia e lo Sviluppo economico sostenibile National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development	GDP - Gross Domestic Product
ODA - Official Development Assistance	ESDN - European Sustainable Development Network	PNACC - Piano Nazionale per l'Adattamento ai Cambiamenti Climatici National Climate Change Adaptation Plan
AREU - Azienda Regionale Emergenza Urgenza Regional Emergency Rescue Service	ESDW - European Sustainable Development Week	PNR - Programma Nazionale di Riforma National Reform Programme
WES - Work Experience Scheme	ESG - Environmental, Social and Governance	POAS - Piani di Organizzazione Aziendale Strategici Strategic Business Organisation Plan
ASL - Azienda Sanitaria Locale Local Health Authority	ETS - Emission Trading Scheme	PON - Programma Operativo Nazionale National Operational Programme
ASST - Aziende Socio Sanitarie Territoriali Local Health and Social Care Services	FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation	SUMP - Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan
ATO - Ambito Territoriali Ottimali, the name given to a concession area for water services in Italy	FEEM - Fondazione ENI Enrico Mattei ENI Enrico Mattei Foundation	PwC - PricewaterhouseCoopers
HPA - Health Protection Agency	RES - Renewable Energy Sources	MFF - Multiannual Financial Framework
EIB - European Investment Bank	GCSD - Government Council on Sustainable Development	Rel - Reddito di Inclusione Italian Inclusion Income
BES - Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing indicators	GDPR - General Data Protection Regulation	RPJMN - Indonesian National Medium-Term Development Plan
GES - Good Environmental Status	GHG - Greenhouse Gases	RUS - Rete delle Università per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile University Network for Sustainable Development
MEC - Minimum Environmental Criteria	GPI - Global Peace Index	EHS - Environmentally Harmful Subsidies
CATI - Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing	GRI - Global Reporting Initiative	EFS - Environmentally Friendly Subsidies
CBD - Convention on Biological Diversity	HLPF - High-level Political Forum	UAA - Utilised Agricultural Area
CDP - Cassa Depositi e Prestiti Deposits and Loans Fund	INDIRE - Istituto Nazionale di Documentazione, Innovazione e Ricerca Educativa National Institute for Documentation, Innovation and Educational Research	SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women	IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	SDSN - Sustainable Development Solutions Network
EEC - European Economic Community	IRCCS - Istituti di Ricovero e Cura a Carattere Scientifico Italian Research Hospitals	SEAN - Strategia Energetica Climatica e Ambientale Environmental Energy Strategy
EESC - European Economic and Social Committee	ISEE - Indicatore della Situazione Economica Equivalente Italian Equivalent Economic Status Indicator	SEN - Strategia Energetica Nazionale National Energy Strategy
GFEC - Gross Final Energy Consumption	ISMEA - Istituto di Servizi per il Mercato Agricolo Alimentare Institute of Services for the Agricultural and Food Market	SIA - Sostegno all'Inclusione Attiva Italian Support for Active Inclusion
CGIL - Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro Italian General Confederation of Labour	ISPR - Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale Institute for Environmental Protection and Research	SCI - Sites of Community Interest
CIAE - Comitato Interministeriale per gli Affari Europei Interministerial Committee for European Affairs	ISRE - Indicatore della Situazione Reddittuale Equivalente Italian Equivalent Income Status Indicator	SNA - Scuola Nazionale di Amministrazione National School of Administration
CICS - Comitato Interministeriale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation	ISS - Istituto Superiore di Sanità National Institute of Health	SNAC - Strategia Nazionale di Adattamento ai Cambiamenti Climatici National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
CIPE - Comitato Interministeriale per la Programmazione Economica Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning	ISTAT - Istituto Nazionale di Statistica Italy's National Statistical Office	SNAL - Strategia Nazionale per le Aree Interne National Strategy for Internal Areas
CIPU - Comitato Interministeriale per le Politiche Urbane Interministerial Committee for Urban Policies	ITS - Intelligent Transport Systems	SNSvS - Strategia Nazionale per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile National Sustainable Development Strategy
CMA - Conference of the Parties to the Paris Agreement which have ratified it	JRC - Joint Research Centre	SRI - Socially Responsible Investments
CNCS - Consiglio Nazionale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo National Council for Development Cooperation	LEA - Livelli Essenziali di Assistenza Italian Standard Healthcare Provision	STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
CNES - Comitato Nazionale per l'Educazione alla Sostenibilità Italian National Committee for Sustainability Education	LDCs - Least Developed Countries	SVIMEZ - Associazione per lo Sviluppo Industriale del Mezzogiorno Association for Industrial Development in Southern Italy
CNIU - Commissione Nazionale Italiana per l'UNESCO Italian National Commission for UNESCO	MAECI - Ministero degli Affari Esteri e della Cooperazione Internazionale Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	TCRFD - Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures
CONSOB - Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa Italy's Stock Exchange Commission	MAI - Mediterranean Adequacy Index	EU - European Union
COP 23 - 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties to the Paris Agreement	MATTM - Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea Protection	UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
CREA - Consiglio per la Ricerca in Agricoltura e l'analisi dell'Economia Agraria Research Council for Agriculture and the Analysis of Agricultural Economies	CNCD - Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases	UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
CRUI - Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Italiane Conference of Italian University Rectors	MDGs - Millennium Development Goals	UNWTO - United Nations World Tourism Organisation
	MFF - Multiannual Financial Framework	UPI - Unione delle Province d'Italia Union of Italian Provinces
	MISE - Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico Italian Ministry for Economic Development	EIA - Environmental Impact Assessment
	MIUR - Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research	HIA - Health Impact Assessment
	NAFTA - North American Free Trade Agreement	VNR - Voluntary National Review
	NEET - Not in Education, Employment or Training	WEF - World Economic Forum
	OECD - Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development	WFE - World Federation of Exchanges
		WMG - Women's Major Group
		WWF - World Wildlife Fund



1. The international community's commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda



1. The international community's commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda

1.1 Global initiatives

During 2017 and the first half of 2018, the global commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, approved by the United Nations in September 2015, saw a growing number of initiatives. In addition to the mobilisation of all countries at the High-level Political Forum (held in July 2018), the involvement of the public and private sectors, civil society and other stakeholders in planning and implementing initiatives that aim to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was particularly intense.

The succession of numerous meetings at international level, the publication of studies and research papers, the establishment of new reporting standards and the spread of training and awareness-raising initiatives have helped to reaffirm the importance of the 2030 Agenda as a new global development paradigm, including through the formation of new partnerships between different categories of stakeholder and increased media visibility for the SDGs. The impact of the 2030 Agenda on public opinion was analysed in a study carried out by the Brookings Institution, which compared the attention paid by leading international newspapers to the SDGs with news coverage of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) during the period 2000-2015. Current media coverage of the SDGs appears to be much more intense, a sign of the general public's growing interest in sustainability issues. Investors, companies, and public and private stakeholders are increasingly inclined to learn all about the SDGs in order to take them into account in their investment strategies.

An important confirmation of the private sector's focus on the SDGs is the adoption of the new performance evaluation standards developed by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), which definitively replace the G4 guidelines, in use since 2000. The transition from the G4 guidelines to the Sustainability Reporting Standards (GRI Standards), which include the SDGs, will allow all com-

panies in the world, regardless of size and industry, to calculate and monitor their economic, social and environmental impact on stakeholders (local communities, employees and the environment).

This trend has been confirmed by the study carried out by KPMG entitled "The road ahead", which analyses the sustainability and corporate responsibility reporting practices of 4,900 companies in 49 countries. According to the research, the number of companies that provide non-financial information in their annual reports is growing and the SDGs, only two years after their adoption, are increasingly mentioned. According to KPMG, the role of the SDGs in corporate reporting will grow further in the coming years.

Similar messages have come from the world of finance. The World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), the international trade association of all stock exchanges, has issued an update to the 2015 Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) guidelines based on the latest advances in sustainable finance, so that sustainability may become a requirement for stock exchange listing. The new roadmap has been drawn up in the light of the SDGs and the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and investor feedback, as well as of experience gained from sustainable finance initiatives carried out in recent years. The updated guidance identifies 30 benchmarks, such as emissions intensity, climate risk mitigation, gender pay equality, human rights, ethics, anti-corruption and disclosure practices, and above all takes into account transparency.

As far as political choices are concerned, according to the SDG Index and Dashboards Report published last July by the Bertelsmann Foundation and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), most of the G20 countries have started implementing the SDGs, but there are still important omissions, partly due to the way in which the Goals are received by political leadership and translated into institutionalised mecha-

nisms. For example, while some countries have set up dedicated coordination units, strategies and action plans to achieve the SDGs, others are lagging behind.

The contradictions between programmes and actions are also reflected in the available data. In 2017, we used up nature 1.7 times faster than ecosystems can regenerate. In other words, we consumed 1.7 planets last year. The last balanced year was 1969, and since then the situation has

been worsening. Compared to 2016, the natural resources consumed in 2018 have increased slightly, bringing forward Earth Overshoot Day, the date that ideally represents natural "bankruptcy", from 8 August to 2 August, amounting to seven days. This means that in exactly seven months we consumed as much as the Earth is able to provide in a year.

An alarming picture, which was talked about at COP 23 in Bonn last November, chaired by Fiji,

THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

On 25 September 2015, the United Nations approved the Global Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), broken down into 169 targets to be reached by 2030 (see Annex).

On this historic occasion, a clear opinion was expressed on the unsustainability of the current development model, not just in terms of the environment, but also from an economic and social point of view. In this way - and this reveals the highly innovative nature of the 2030 Agenda - the idea that sustainability is merely an environmental issue is definitively superseded, and an integrated vision of the various dimensions of development is affirmed.

All countries are called upon to contribute to efforts to set the world on a sustainable path, no longer distinguishing between developed, emerging and developing countries, although clearly problems may vary depending on the level of development achieved. This means that each country must commit to defining its own sustainable development strategy in order to achieve the SDGs, reporting on the results obtained within a process coordinated by the UN. Obviously, given its breadth and "transformational" nature, implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires strong engagement of all components of society, from businesses to the public sector, from civil society to philanthropic institutions, from universities and research centres to information and cultural providers.

The process of changing the development model is monitored via a complex system based on 17 Goals, 169 targets and over 240 indicators. Each country is periodically assessed by the United Nations with respect to these parameters, through the activities of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) and by national and international public opinion.



where 30,000 people gathered to discuss action against climate change. Governments took key decisions at that forum, including the launch of the Talanoa Dialogue, a platform for indigenous peoples and local communities to share impacts and solutions to combat climate change, and the agreement on agriculture aimed at addressing climate change and food security, also in view of the upcoming COP 24 held in Poland in December 2018.

The scenario that emerges from the Agricultural Outlook report, edited by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), is not encouraging either. In addition to the traditional risks that can threaten agricultural markets, the FAO and the OECD underline the growing level of uncertainty regarding agricultural trade policies. Recent events such as the Russian blockade of food imports from the EU in response to sanctions adopted following the crisis in Ukraine, the renegotiation of NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) trade agreements, and the as yet unknown impact of Brexit on trade in certain foodstuffs such as meat and dairy products, increase the instability of the world agricultural sector and the possibility of a trend towards protectionism. Given the vital role of agricultural trade in ensuring global food security, the two organisations recommend that trade policies should be relaxed and markets opened up. This appeal is even more important after the USA's recent decision to reintroduce import duties.

In March 2018, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the global reference body for biodiversity and ecosystem services that brings together 129 states, approved a report on land degradation in which it stated that:

- land degradation has a negative impact on the wellbeing of at least 3.2 billion people;
- currently less than 25% of the land area has escaped substantial impact from human activities;
- it is estimated that by 2050 this area will be less than 10%.

Under these circumstances, it is becoming increasingly difficult to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2019, IPBES will produce a Global Biodiversity Assessment, a key document for better understanding the current state of biodiversity.

On the occasion of its 50th anniversary, the Club of Rome, an association founded by Aurelio Peccei in April 1968, which in 1972 upset the world with the famous report, "The Limits of Development", has released a new study entitled "Capitalism, Short-termism, Population and the Destruction of the Planet". This focuses on the global economic, social and environmental crisis resulting from the unsustainability of the current development model. In order to change the current situation, the Club of Rome proposes a "new Enlightenment", which should lead to a renewed balance between humanity and nature, between the short and the long term, and between public and private interests. In this transformation, the role of science - of an interdisciplinary science - can be fundamental. It is no coincidence that one of the most interesting examples of innovative partnerships comes from the world of science. Indeed, the new world science organisation - the International Science Council established in Paris by merging the International Council of Scientific Unions and the International Social Science Council - has combined natural and social sciences under an agreement involving more than 140 academies of science and national research councils.

It is also significant that, in June 2017, the Academies of Science of the G7 countries, after their meeting held in Rome on the initiative of the Accademia dei Lincei, delivered a joint document to the G7 governments on "The new economic growth: the role of science, technology, innovation and infrastructure", which specifically refers to Goal 9 of the 2030 Agenda as an essential reference point for government policies in this field.

1.2 The United Nations High-level Political Forum 2018

The 2018 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development was held in New York in July. This year, the Forum addressed the issue of transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies. During the 10 days, the progress made in achieving Goals 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production), 15 (Life on land) and 17 (Partnership for the Goals) was analysed.

The Forum - which is held annually under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly, to coordinate the monitoring and review network for implementation of the SDGs - highlighted strong mobilisation for the 2030 Agenda at global level, but also stressed the immediate need to step up the pace if the Goals are to be achieved. As highlighted by the **report on the SDGs released by the UN in preparation for the Forum** (see text box), more and more people around the world have better living standards than they did ten years ago, but climate change, conflicts, inequality, chronic poverty, food insecurity and rapid urbanisation are hampering many countries' efforts. The same picture emerges from the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) on the state of implementation of the 2030 Agenda presented this year by 46 countries, including Greece, Spain, Poland, Romania and Hungary. In addition to some best practices - such as the establishment of interministerial committees on the SDGs, implementation of the Agenda at local level, an increase in partnerships and growing mobilisation of universities, civil society and the private sector - most of the NRVs highlight a number of challenges and obstacles to achieving the Goals. These include the need to strengthen the statistical capacity of monitoring and assessment bodies, the difficulty in managing the consequences of demographic increases and ageing populations, the need to increase the employment rate of women and young people, and the need for the latter to acquire the right skills and knowledge to meet the needs of the labour market. The necessity to strengthen climate change mitigation and the resilience of the economic system, and the need for increased public and

private investment in research and innovation and better management of the impact of natural disasters, were also highlighted.

The document summarising the messages to be taken from the VNRs identifies a number of priorities, including the need to strengthen national statistical systems, to draw up innovative strategies and mechanisms to finance the SDGs, to commit to greater policy consistency (avoiding - as in the past - partial outcomes or mere window-dressing), and ensure better coordination between different levels of government. This must all take place, the UN emphasises, without forgetting those at greatest risk of social exclusion, poverty or discrimination, such as women, the elderly, migrants and the disabled.

Certain reports that have been prepared in recent months, which confirm the existence of socially unacceptable situations, should be mentioned in this regard. The first presents the Global Slavery Index, produced by the Walk Free Foundation, which shows that, at global level, 40.3 million people, of whom 70% were women, were actually deemed to be slaves in 2016. Although it is mistakenly considered to have been almost eradicated, the problem of slavery is still widespread around the world. The term "modern slavery" refers to a series of conditions ranging from forced labour and marriage (or sexual servitude) to human trafficking and debt bondage. Essentially, these are exploitative activities in which the persons concerned cannot refuse to participate or abandon their position due to threats, violence, coercion, deception and/or abuse of power. According to the report, 25 million modern slaves are obliged to carry out forced labour, while more than one third of the total, or 15 million people, enter into slavery through forced marriage, mainly involving women and girls, who the more difficult their economic situation is, the more likely they are to be subjugated.

The second theme regards inequality. The 2018 OXFAM report, "Reward Work, not Wealth", states that inequality is increasing worldwide and that between 2006 and 2015 the wealth of "billionaires" (at March 2017, 2,043 people who had net wealth of more than US\$1 billion) grew by 13%. In 2017, the richest 1% of the population benefited from 82% of the increase in net wealth, while 50% of the less well-off population did not even receive one cent of this increase.

THE UN REPORT FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2018

With just 12 years to go before the deadline for the SDGs, a great deal still needs to be done. Despite the enormous progress made in many sectors of the 2030 Agenda, the targets set will not be met in some areas. A radical change is needed in terms of the assumption of responsibility by national and international institutions and their capacity to take the initiative - through effective collaborative partnerships between governments and stakeholders - with regard to economic policies and the way business is conducted. This, in a nutshell, is the message of the 2018 Report on the Sustainable Development Goals issued by the United Nations. A report that contrasts the excellent results achieved in some areas with a number of dramatic situations that remain unsolved, and which poses new challenges regarding conflicts, climate change and growing inequalities.

1. No poverty. According to the latest estimates, 11% of the world's population (around 780 million people) live below the poverty line, but in the last 20 years the percentage of workers living with their families on less than \$US1.90 per person per day has fallen from 26.9% in 2000 to 9.2% in 2017. However, 2017 was one of the worst years for financial losses caused by environmental disasters (amounting to over \$US300 billion).

2. Zero hunger. After a period of decline, hunger is on the rise again due to droughts, conflicts and disasters related to climate change. The percentage of undernourished people in the world is growing, rising from 777 to 815 million people between 2015 and 2016 (up from 10.6% to 11%), and the number of children under the age of 5 who are underweight is increasing. Aid for agriculture in developing countries is decreasing, down from 20% of total aid in the 1980s to 6% in 2016.

3. Good health and wellbeing. More and more people are living healthier lives than 10 years ago, but too many are dying prematurely. Although the maternal mortality rate decreased by 37% between 2000 and 2015, as many as 303,000 women died in 2015 due to complications during childbirth. The overall incidence of HIV, tuberculosis and hepatitis B is declining, but malaria cases rose from 210 million in 2013 to 216 million in 2016; at this rate, malaria is unlikely to be eradicated by 2030. Cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases caused 32 million deaths in 2016, while air pollution was responsible for 7 million deaths.

4. Quality education. While there has been an increase in the participation rate in primary education, more than half of all children and adolescents worldwide do not meet minimum standards of literacy and numeracy. Wide disparities in education remain, determined by gender and local contexts. Investment in education infrastructure is particularly needed in developing countries. In 2016, only 34% of primary schools in the least developed countries had electricity and less than 40% had washbasins.

5. Gender equality. Despite a reduction over the years, discrimination continues to deprive women of their basic rights and many opportunities. 650 million girls under the age of 18 are forced to marry during adolescence, although there is a constant decline in this practice, as well as in female genital mutilation, while a study conducted in 56 countries found that 20% of girls between 15 and 19 years old have been subjected to physical or psychological violence by their partner.

6. Clean water and sanitation. Too many people still do not have access to safe water resources. Water scarcity is a problem in many countries in North Africa and Asia, where the level of water stress is over 70%. In 2015, only 27% of the least developed countries had basic water services.

7. Affordable and clean energy. Between 2000 and 2016, the proportion of the population with access to electricity rose from 78% to 87%. In the same period, in developing countries, the percentage of people with access to energy has more than doubled, but three billion people still cook using polluting fuels. One billion people still live without electricity and the share of renewable energy has increased, albeit only slightly, from 17.3% to 17.5%.

8. Decent work and economic growth. Overall, labour productivity has grown and unemployment has fallen only slightly (from 5.9% in 2009 to 5.6% in 2017). But youth unemployment stands at 13% and 61% of jobs are insecure. Gender inequality is significant: on average, men earn 12.5% more than women. In 2016, global GDP grew by 1.3% (up 1.7% in the period 2010-2016), but in the least developed countries the rate of increase fell from 5.7% in the period 2005-2009 to 2.3% in the period 2010-2016.

9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure. Companies in the high- and medium-technology sectors are growing, representing 44.7% of the total value of production. Thanks to the rapid growth of production in Asia, the share of manufacturing in global GDP is increasing, but in the period 2000-2015 the use of coal by industries fell 19%. Another positive sign comes from third-generation broadband (3G), which reaches 84% of the world's population.

10. Reduced inequalities. Efforts have been made in some countries to reduce income disparities, eliminate export duties for exports from least developed countries (LDCs) and increase transfers to them. In the period 2000-2016, the income of the poorest 40% of people in LDCs grew faster than average.

11. Sustainable cities and communities. Many cities are facing the difficult challenge of providing adequate infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing urban population, whilst managing the environmental impact. Between 2000 and 2014, the percentage of the urban population living in shanty towns fell from 28.4% to 22.8%. In 2016, 91% of the world's urban population breathed air that did not meet WHO minimum quality requirements. Air pollution caused 4.2 million deaths.

12. Responsible consumption and production. Combining economic growth and rational use of resources is one of the most complex challenges facing humanity. By the end of this year, 108 countries will have introduced national policies regarding sustainable consumption and production. According to the KPMG report, 93% of the world's 250 largest companies report on their sustainability performance.

13. Climate action. 2017 was one of the hottest years ever recorded, and the average temperature in the five-year period 2013-2017 was the highest ever. Of the 175 countries that have ratified the Paris Agreement, 168 have notified the United Nations regarding their first national contributions towards combating climate change.

14. Life below water. The overall share of biologically sustainable fish stocks fell from 90% in 1974 to 69% in 2013 and ocean acidity rose 26%. Due to pollution and eutrophication, coastal waters are deteriorating. Without concrete efforts, coastal eutrophication will rise 20% by 2050. In January 2018, the percentage of marine waters within protected areas was 16%, while the protection of areas that is essential for safeguarding biodiversity within them rose from 30% in 2000 to 44% in 2018.

15. Life on land. In recent years, the protection of forests has increased, and the rate of forest disappearance has fallen 25% compared to 2000-2005. Nevertheless, approximately one fifth of the land area covered by vegetation is experiencing a marked decline in productivity, threatening the livelihoods of more than one billion people. Deforestation is one of the main causes of the increase in the number of endangered species - as reported by the Red List Index - an alarming sign that mammals, birds, amphibians, corals and other species are declining.

16. Peace, justice and strong institutions. Many regions of the world continue to suffer from war and other forms of violence. Between 2005 and 2017, almost 80% of children between the ages of 1 and 14 were subjected to some form of physical or psychological aggression. Between 2012 and 2014, a large number of human trafficking flows, mainly comprising women and children for sexual exploitation or forced labour, were identified. The percentage of prisoners detained without being convicted (31%) has remained unchanged over the last 10 years. In 2015, more than one thousand human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists were killed while doing their jobs. On a positive note, it is worth mentioning that, to date, more than half of the countries have set up a national body dedicated to human rights.

17. Partnership for the Goals. In 2017, public aid to developing countries (Official Development Assistance, ODA) amounted to \$US146.6 billion (a decrease of 0.6% compared with 2016). This is equivalent to 0.31% of the gross national product of donor countries, while specific aid for capacity building and national planning policies has remained unchanged since 2010 (approximately \$US20 billion). After a long period of growth, the share of exports from LDCs fell to 0.9% in 2016 (1.1% in 2013).

The wealth of "billionaires" in the 12 months preceding the report - according to OXFAM - rose by US\$762 billion, a figure equal to seven times the total resources needed to lift 789 million people out of a state of extreme poverty. Regarding developed countries, the 2018 OECD report, "The Role and Design of Net Wealth Taxes", recalls that income inequality has grown in the majority of OECD countries in the last 30 years, and proposes opening up a debate on the pros and cons of wealth taxation as one of the possible responses to these trends.

Finally, the recent report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) shows an increase in migration worldwide for the fifth consecutive year. At the end of 2017, 68.5 million people (three million more than in 2016) had refugee and displaced person status due to war, social conflict, outbreaks of violence, persecution and human rights violations. Refugees, namely people fleeing from their own country to escape conflict and persecution, account for more than a third of the total (25.4 million), up 2.9 million on the 2016 figure, the largest variation compared to other categories of migrant, of whom 3.1 million are asylum seekers. Finally, 40 million displaced persons have had to look for a new place to live within their own national borders.

Also noteworthy is the substantial growth in the number of so-called "environmental refugees", 28 million people who, as a result of the effects of climate change, are forced to move due to the difficulty of accessing primary resources such as food and water, and the process of desertification in vast areas, not only in Africa.

Finally, it should be noted that wars and armed conflicts are not declining. According to data provided by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's 2018 Report, 49 conflicts were ongoing in the previous year, including two between states and 47 within states. The report also points out that military expenditure in the world has reached US\$1,739 billion, up 1.1% on 2016, while between 2013 and 2017 there was a 10% increase (compared to the previous five-year period) in transfers of weapons systems, mainly to countries that do not respect international human rights legislation or are experiencing internal conflict. 60% of arms exports derive from five NATO member countries: the United States, France, the UK, Germany and Italy. The 2018 Global Peace Index (GPI), covering 163 countries, also shows

that the level of global peacefulness fell by 0.27%, reporting improvements in peace and security in 71 countries and worsening situations in 92 countries.

1.3 European sustainable development commitments

1.3.1 The situation of the European Union in relation to the SDGs

In November 2017, Eurostat presented a report on the SDGs in Europe entitled “Sustainable Development in the European Union: Overview of progress towards the SDGs in an EU context”, aimed at analysing the situation in Europe regarding each of the Goals. According to Eurostat, the greatest progress in the last five years is reported for Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 15 (Life on land). Progress is more limited for Goals 4 (Quality education), 17 (Partnership for the Goals), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 5 (Gender equality), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger) and 10 (Reduced inequalities). For some Goals, however, an overall assessment is not provided due to insufficient data (6 - Clean water and sanitation, 13 - Climate action, 14 - Life below water, and 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions).

In July 2018, ASviS presented new composite indicators to measure the trends within the European Union and individual countries with respect to the SDGs. This complex analysis was carried out on the basis of elementary data published by Eurostat, which facilitates assessment of progress and setbacks as well as comparison of the relative performance of individual countries against the EU average.

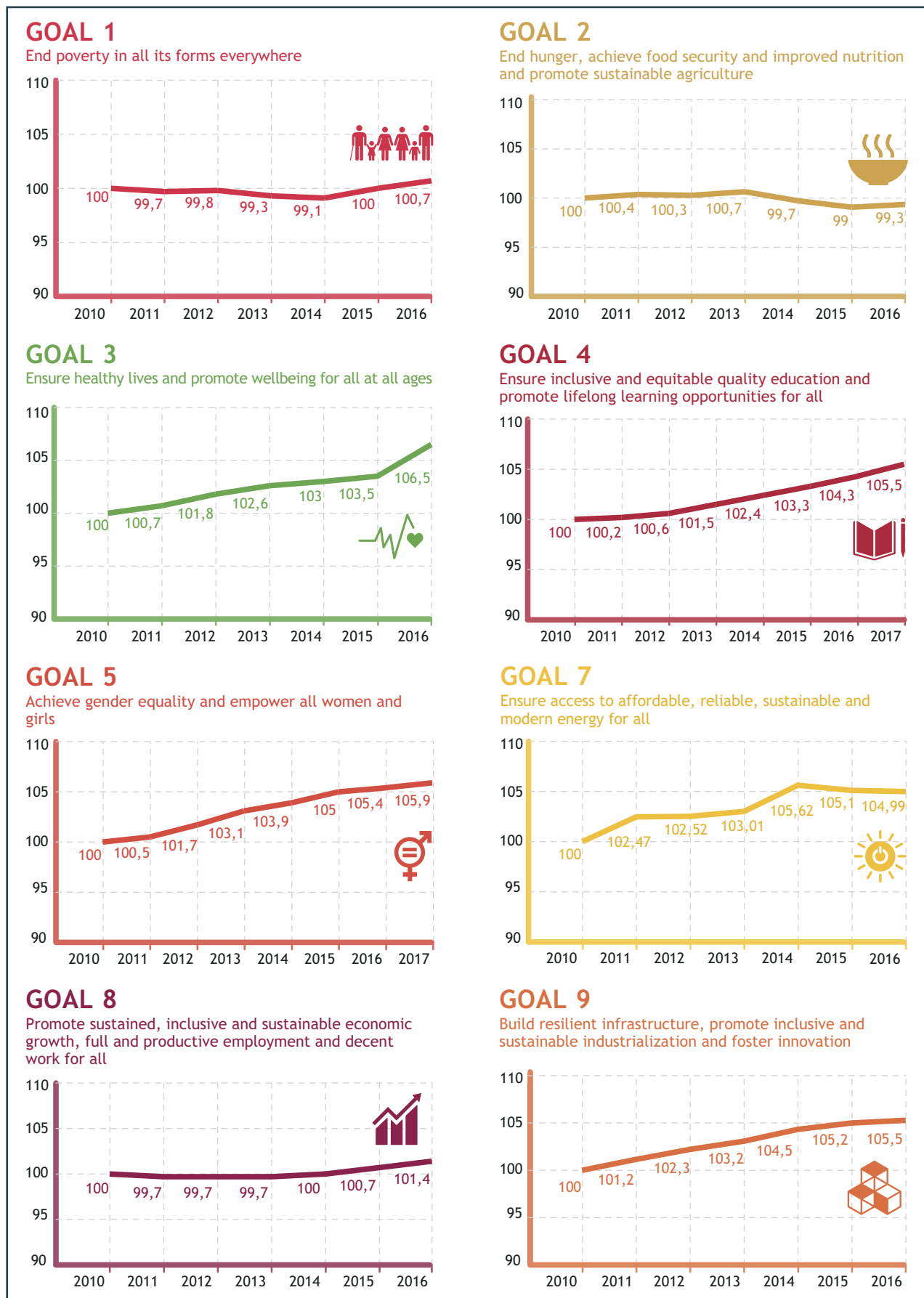
On the basis of these indicators, the European Union, the most advanced area of the world with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals, shows signs of improvement compared with 2010 for nine out of seventeen Goals, while for two others the situation is significantly worse, and for another four the situation is substantially unchanged (for Goals 6 and 14, it was impossible to create a composite indicator due to lack of data)¹. Between 2010 and 2016 the situation improved significantly for these Goals:

- **Goal 3** (Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages). The composite indicator shows a positive trend, which may be explained by the increase in life expectancy

and the large decrease in the portion of the population living in areas with high noise levels and in the number of road deaths.

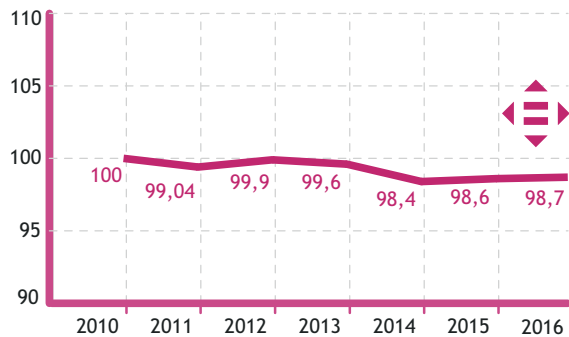
- **Goal 4** (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all). The composite indicator shows an uptrend over the observed period, driven by the increase in the portion of the population with higher education and the contemporaneous reduction in the rate of early school leaving. The positive trend largely characterises all the countries of the European Union, albeit with varying intensity.
- **Goal 5** (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). Here too, the indicator shows a rising trend in the period 2010-2017, thanks to the increase in the share of women who sit in national parliaments and governments, and in those who perform senior management roles. However, there are differences between the various states.
- **Goal 7** (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all), **Goal 12** (Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns) and **Goal 13** (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts). Their composite indicators show similar trends, as they have many elementary indicators in common. In particular, the composite indicators rise uninterruptedly until 2014 and then stabilise (Goal 12 continues to improve at a slower pace, including in the two-year period 2015-2016). The positive trend derives from the increase in the renewable energy share of total energy consumption, and the decrease in the per capita value of household energy consumption, although with the economic recovery of 2016 energy consumption has started rising again. Regarding Goal 12, the productivity of resource use and material consumption has also improved. Despite the large differences between the levels in the various countries, all areas of the European Union show fairly similar trends, with a few exceptions.
- **Goal 8** (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all). The composite indicator remains stable until 2014, affected by the economic crisis, and then increases in the two-year period 2015-2016, thanks to reductions in the long-term unem-

Figure 1 - Summary indicators for the European Union



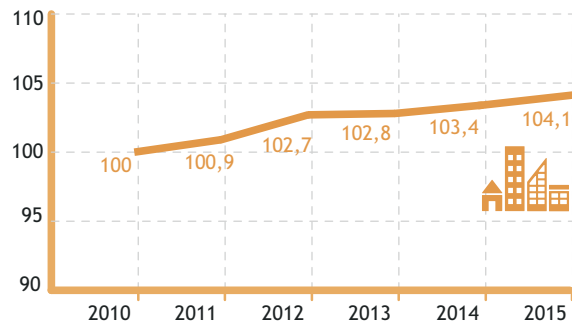
GOAL 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries



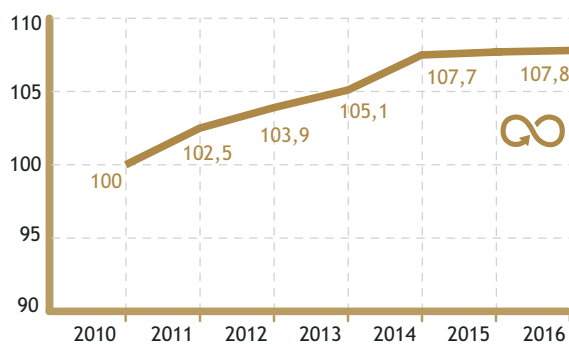
GOAL 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



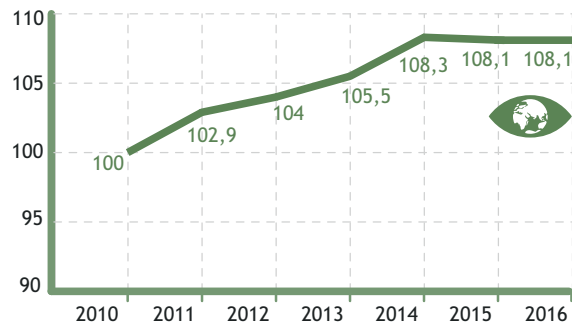
GOAL 12

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



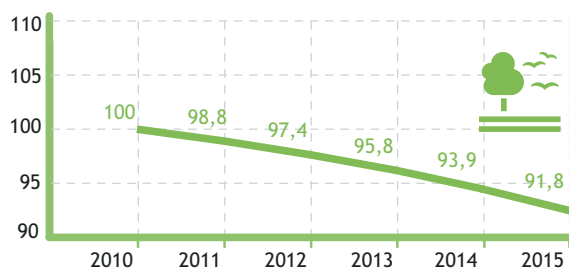
GOAL 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



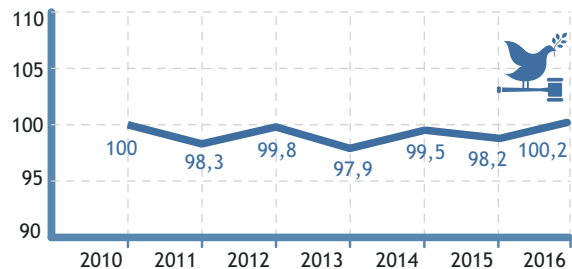
GOAL 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



GOAL 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



GOAL 17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



ployment rate and the share of young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

- **Goal 9** (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation). The indicator for the European Union shows a constant uptrend, driven by the decline in CO₂ emissions per kilometre from new cars and the increase in both the number of people employed in research and development, and the share of GDP attributable to these activities. The differences between countries are significant, although the indicator for the worst performer, Romania, rose (5.7 points) more than that of the best performer, Denmark (2.4 points).
- **Goal 11** (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable). The indicator is constantly rising, driven by the increase in the share of recycled municipal waste and the decline in the shares relating to people's exposure to particulate matter, the number of deaths in road accidents and housing problems.

The situation is significantly worse for two Goals:

- **Goal 10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries). The composite indicator shows a downtrend in the observed period (2010-2016), due to the increase (especially in the two-year period 2013-2014) of the share of the population at risk of poverty after social transfers, the gap between the income of people in such a condition and those people with an income corresponding to 60% of the median equivalised disposable income, and the Gini inequality index calculated on the equivalent disposable income. There are substantial differences between member states in this area. While in Finland (the best performer) the index rose constantly to reach 118.4, in Bulgaria (the worst country in this respect) it fell from 82.7 to 74.7.
- **Goal 15** (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss). The synthetic indicator is clearly worsening, with a decline of more than eight points. This trend reflects the significant increase in the share of land covered by man-made works, compared with slight improve-

ments in the share covered by forests and areas of land classified as "sufficient" according to the Habitats Directive. In this case, all member states report a worsening of the situation, with Slovenia having the best ranking and Belgium the worst.

The situation is unchanged for these Goals:

- **Goal 1** (End poverty in all its forms everywhere). The composite indicator decreases until 2014 due to the increase in the share of the population at risk of poverty and social exclusion, and of the population living in low labour-intensive households. The slight improvement in the composite indicator in 2016 was driven by a slight decrease in the number of people who were unable to adequately take care of themselves, and those at risk of poverty and social exclusion. The differences between countries in this area are very wide: Malta and the Czech Republic are slightly improving their situation, while Greece has seen a marked deterioration.
- **Goal 2** (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture). The composite indicator for the European Union is subject to small fluctuations in the elementary indicators, which tend to offset each other. In particular, areas used in organic farming and the share of ammonia emissions from agriculture are increasing.
- **Goal 16** (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels). The indicator is affected by the reduction in homicides and the improvement in security perceived by the population, while the perception of corruption is increasing and citizens' confidence in the European Parliament is diminishing.
- **Goal 17** (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development). In this case, the indicator's stability is affected by minor changes in labour and environmental taxes as a share of the total tax take and by the slight increase in government debt, accompanied by a small rise in official development assistance as a share of gross national income.

1.3.2 The initiatives of European institutions

Compared with last year, there has been no change of pace in the European Union as called for in the celebrations for the 70th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, and serious problems remain unresolved, making it more difficult to move towards full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The issue of migrants, which cuts across various SDGs, the lack of a unified approach to managing the problem, the positions of the so-called Visegrad Group (Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Slovakia), Russian and US policies and the risks associated with the handling of Brexit have all helped to accentuate conflicting positions. This has prevented us from focusing on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, threatening the very survival of the European Union and even casting doubt on certain solidarity principles that were previously taken for granted. The European Commission's regular statements that the SDGs should be an integral part of all European policy actions have not yet led to the definition of a European strategy for pursuing the Goals. Time is now running short, not least because the European Council meeting in June 2017 clearly expressed:

- a call to establish, by the second half of 2018, a comprehensive implementation strategy with timetables, targets and concrete measures to implement the 2030 Agenda in all EU policies;
- the need to identify, by the second half of 2018, the gaps the EU needs to fill by 2030 in the areas of policy, legislation, governance structures for horizontal consistency purposes and implementation.

The European Commission's 2018 programme, outlined in President Jean Claude Juncker's State of the Union speech of 13 September 2017, included commitments to "improve the planet" and make Europe "the continent of solidarity", while in the "letter of intent" addressed to Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, and Jüri Ratas, Estonian Prime Minister and President-in-Office of the EU Council, a commitment was made to produce a Reflection Paper entitled "Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030 on the follow-up to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, including on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change". This document, regarding which a consultation was also launched in January 2018, was

expected by the end of the first half of the year, but it now seems it will be published by the end of the year.

In this regard, it should be recalled that elections to the European Parliament will be held in 2019, with subsequent renewal of the Commission. Consequently, any decision to set out the roadmap to 2030 will be taken during the next legislative term, and in any event not before the end of 2019, when the new Commission becomes operational. Expectations are high for the rotating Romanian presidency (scheduled for the first half of 2019), which has already announced that it will initiate a "strengthened partnership" between state and non-state actors, in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Therefore, an important role will be played by civil society, which will have to exert pressure and raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals among the candidates and subsequently the new lawmakers. Noteworthy in this regard are the activities of the multi-stakeholder platform on the SDGs, promoted by the Commission and created with the aim of supporting the Commission and other institutions in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Europe, constituting a forum for sharing experience on the implementation of the Goals, and defining rules for awarding an annual European sustainability prize. Leading non-governmental organisations and companies, including Enel, form part of the platform, which is chaired by First Vice President Frans Timmermans.

The major development in 2017 was the agreement reached between the European institutions on the so-called "European Pillar of Social Rights", which was drawn up to build a more inclusive and fairer European Union and an Economic and Monetary Union that is more deeply rooted in shared values, above all social and not just economic ones. The pillar, promulgated by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission at the Gothenburg Social Summit on 17 November 2017, is also a key commitment by member states to prevent fragmentation and social exclusion in Europe. The pillar breaks down into three main categories: equal opportunities and access to the labour market; fair working conditions; social protection and inclusion. In essence, it is a joint declaration on the implementation of social policies (largely a national competence) and the rights they should guarantee, fully consistent with the

2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The problem, of course, is implementation of concrete policies to make the social pillar effective, an issue on which the Commission is preparing proposals.

Regarding international cooperation, it is necessary to review the guidelines on women's empowerment and gender equality and the guiding principles for global health which, as they date back to 2010 and 2014 respectively, do not take the 2030 Agenda into account.

On 31 May 2018, the European Parliament adopted a resolution reaffirming that the EU must be at the forefront of the implementation of the SDGs and criticising the lack of strong commitment on this issue in the proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF). Consequently, incorporation of the SDGs within all the policies and initiatives of the next MFF will be required. In particular, the Parliament condemns the lack of commitments to eliminate gender discrimination and highlights the need to increase expenditure on climate policies, compared with the amount provided for by the MFF, to reach 30% by 2027 at the latest.

As part of the circular economy package adopted in 2015, the European Commission presented a plastics strategy on 18 January 2018. It also opened a consultation with all stakeholders in the hope that the strategy would make a concrete contribution to achieving the SDGs and compliance with the Paris Climate Change Agreements. The Commission aims to:

- make plastic recycling profitable for companies, including by developing new packaging standards;
- reduce plastic waste, including by limiting the use of microplastics in products and establishing labelling for biodegradable and compostable plastics;
- stop the release of waste into the sea with new provisions regarding port reception facilities;
- guide investment and innovation to minimise plastic waste at source;
- encourage change around the world by providing global solutions and developing international standards.

In May, the Commission proposed a ban on the sale of 10 single-use plastic products (e.g. plates, cutlery, cotton buds, straws) which pollute Europe's beaches and seas the most.

On 22 May, as part of the circular economy package, following approval in plenary session by the Parliament, the member states approved a series of measures on waste with the aim of producing less waste and stepping up recycling. The new legislation reinforces the "waste hierarchy" by requiring member states to adopt specific measures that give priority to prevention, reuse and recycling over landfilling and incineration. Regarding the recycling of municipal waste, the target is a 55% share by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035, while the share of waste disposed of in landfills must be reduced to 10% by 2035. During the transition to the new management model, an important role is assigned to manufacturers, who will be held responsible for their products when they become waste.

Finally, the report presented in January 2018 by the High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable Finance, comprising 20 experts from civil society, the financial sector and academia, and observers from European and international institutions, should be noted. The report contains a number of strategic recommendations for creating a financial system that is conducive to sustainable investment:

- set up a classification system to establish market clarity on what is "sustainable";
- clarify investors' obligations to achieve a more sustainable financial system;
- improve the communication of information by financial institutions and enterprises on how to integrate sustainability into their decision-making process;
- create an EU label for "green investment funds";
- incorporate sustainability within the mandates of the European Supervisory Authorities;
- develop a European standard for "green bonds".

In May 2018, a number of actions were defined to implement these recommendations, including the preparation of three regulatory proposals to:

- establish a regulatory framework to facilitate sustainable investment. The objective is to classify and qualify an economic activity as environmentally sustainable and to direct private investment towards it;
- promote information on sustainable investment and sustainability risks by introducing certain disclosure requirements for institu-

tional investors and asset managers regarding how to integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into their processes;

- amend the previous Regulation on the benchmark (Regulation (EU) 2016/1011), with the aim of creating a new category of benchmarks that would allow investors to assess the environmental impact of their investments.

1.3.3 Civil society initiatives

European civil society has been increasingly active regarding 2030 Agenda issues and has put forward proposals which, if accepted, could facilitate the desired change of pace to raise awareness, promote commitment and help develop the capacity needed to achieve implementation of the SDGs at all levels.

Ahead of the State of the Union speech in September 2017, the informal coalition, Europe Ambition², of which ASviS is also a member, sent an open letter to the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, Vice-President Frans Timmermans and the Estonian Presidency of the EU Council, calling for a rethink of EU governance and policies, in order to put achievement of the SDGs at the heart of EU action. The letter was also signed by former prime ministers, former finance and labour ministers, previous EU Commissioners and former heads of the Council and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), as well as by numerous experts on finance, statistics, agri-food sectors and gender issues. The agreement was signed for Italy by Giuliano Amato (constitutional judge, former prime minister), Enrico Giovannini (ASviS Director, former minister of labour), Enrico Letta (director of the School of International Affairs of the Institute of Political Studies in Paris, former prime minister), Mario Monti (president of Bocconi University, former prime minister) and Fabrizio Saccomanni (vice-president of the Institute of International Affairs, former minister of the economy and finance).

The European civil society organisation, SDG Watch Europe, of which ASviS is a member, has drafted a letter to European Budget Commissioner Günther Oettinger requesting reform of the future Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) of the European Union to make it "transformational, people-centred and fully sustainable". The document is in line with implementation of the "6th Scenario" that SDG Watch Europe developed in 2017

in response to the five scenarios proposed by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in his White Paper on the Future of Europe. The text of the letter calls on the Commission to introduce a "sustainability test" for all future EU legislation and financial policies, with the aim of ensuring greater policy consistency, fairer access to finance for citizens and a truly transformational European budget, fully in line with the 2030 Agenda. The proposal was also put forward by the Expert Group on Sustainable Finance, in order to direct European funding towards the transition to a circular economy, and to prevent investment in fossil fuels and practices harmful to the environment, thereby helping to restore and maintain ecosystem services.

According to SDG Watch Europe:

- the EU budget should pursue the SDGs both within and beyond Europe and be fully in line with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Charter of Fundamental Rights, as well as international human rights standards;
- the European Semester should be transformed to deliver "Annual Sustainable Development Surveys" and help to channel EU funding to the priority action areas identified in this way;
- EU financing decisions based on the measurement of countries' performance should be consistent and balanced across all the three dimensions of sustainable development;
- the EU budget should strengthen common European values in Europe and worldwide, and should be designed for people and with people, to achieve greater transparency and meaningful citizen participation;
- the EU budget should increase funds and investment for social inclusion and provide financial means to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights, support the transition to sustainable food, agricultural and territorial policies, restore and maintain ecosystem services, and protect natural resources such as biodiversity and water.

As a member of the network, ASviS also signed the letter and wrote another along the same lines, signed by our President, Pierluigi Stefanini. This was submitted to the attention of the Minister of the Economy and Finance, Piercarlo Padoan, and Undersecretary Sandro Gozi in the hopes that Italy "may play an active role in helping to reform the European Multiannual Financial Framework, partly

thanks to the introduction of the 12 Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing (BES) indicators in the economic planning and national policy assessment process. A change such as the one proposed here would represent significant progress in the way European economic policies are carried out, strongly orienting them towards sustainable development".

Finally, on 31 May 2018, during the Italian Sustainable Development Festival, several European civil society actors, including ASviS, Comité 21 and European Partners for the Environment, participated in the event, "SDGs, Climate and the Future of Europe", sharing a document including these proposals:

- build a new European social contract based on Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and 4 (Quality education);
- work towards an international regulatory framework based on planetary boundaries, in order to protect humanity and ensure a safe and secure space in terms of climate change, biodiversity and management of natural resources;
- use sustainable finance to leverage the transformation of Europe and the planet;
- ensure full and effective participation of women and equal access to leadership and to all levels of decision-making in politics, the economy and public life, ensuring equal opportunities (Goal 5);
- promote the rule of law and apply non-discriminatory legislation, protecting fundamental freedoms, ensuring good governance in terms of accountability, transparency, inclusiveness, participation and representativeness at all levels by stepping up the implementation of the SDGs (Goal 16).

In order to implement the Goals, Europeans must organise themselves as "one mind" and activate five levers to transform the European Union:

- review the governance of the European Union by strengthening its institutions, including through the direct election of the President of the Commission;
- change the way CEOs and boards of directors operate;
- strengthen democracy;
- ensure implementation of the "Sustainable and Inclusive Finance Partnership Agreement and Youth in Action Initiative";
- develop strengthened partnerships with third countries and their stakeholders from 2019 onwards.

NOTES

¹ For a detailed description of the methodology and results, and to access data broken down by country, see the document: "Monitoring the SDGs at EU level with composite indicators", (<http://asvis.it/public/asvis/files/ASVIS-REPORT-EU-COMPOSITES-FINAL.pdf>).

² Europe Ambition 2030 is an informal coalition of European civil society organisations, whose objective is to contribute to building the European Union of the future around the Sustainable Development Goals by making the transition to a more prosperous and inclusive society, capable of safeguarding peace, improving citizens' wellbeing and ensuring the quality of the environment. In accordance with Europe Ambition's vision, Europe should courageously reaffirm its values, recognise the urgency of the economic, social and environmental challenges, and put the path that the UN has mapped out with the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at the centre of its policies.



The difficult Italian transition to a legislature for sustainable development



2. The difficult Italian transition to a legislature for sustainable development

2.1 Government and public administration initiatives

A few weeks after publication of the ASviS Report 2017, the government approved the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNSvS), which was subsequently officially adopted by the Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning (CIPE). By referring to paragraph 2.4 for an analysis of the initiatives adopted during the last twelve months (on which adoption of the Strategy has had no direct effect), some progress may be noted regarding governance issues and the production of statistical indicators relating to the SDGs.

The Strategy breaks down into five areas: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership. Each area consists of a series of “strategic choices, set out in specific national strategic goals for Italy, which complement the 169 targets in the 2030 Agenda”. The Strategy proposal was defined through dialogue and a consultation process involving universities, research institutes and scientific bodies and associations. The Strategy also identifies public policies and legislative measures - defined as “key instruments” - that are needed to achieve its goals.

Despite the interesting and thorough presentation of the Strategy, and partly due to the “political situation” being influenced by a general election, so far it has not played any role in guiding national policies and influencing legislative measures and concrete initiatives. The only administrative measure is the Directive issued in March 2018 by the former Prime Minister, Paolo Gentiloni, subsequently published in the Official Gazette, which makes the Cabinet Office responsible for coordinating economic, social and environmental policies in order to implement the 2030 Agenda. Specifically, the Directive provides for coordination of implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development by the Cabinet Office, through a Committee chaired by the Prime Minister, or his or her delegate, comprising all the ministers and repre-

sentatives of regional, provincial and municipal authorities. The Committee should also report annually (in February) on implementation of the National Strategy and, to this end, each ministry must carry out an analysis (by September) of the consistency between the initiatives undertaken and the Sustainable Development Goals. Information and public communication activities regarding the importance of the 2030 Agenda are also envisaged.

At the time of preparation of this Report, the National Sustainable Development Committee had not yet been appointed, while the election and the difficult process of forming the new government, followed by the complex phase of appointing the various ministers, have prevented the National Strategy from becoming operational.

In implementation of the Strategy, the first ISTAT Report on the Sustainable Development Goals was presented in July 2018. The document, which was the theme of the #Futuro session of the 13th National Statistics Conference and entitled “SDGs 2018 Report. Statistical data for the 2030 Agenda in Italy. Preliminary analysis”, presents an update and a significant enlargement of the indicators already disseminated on three occasions since December 2016, as well as an analysis of their trends with a view to monitoring progress towards the 2030 Agenda Goals. The report’s statistical overview includes 117 of the indicators selected by the United Nations and 235 national measures, which are available at www.istat.it.

An important step for the inclusion of sustainability in the design of public policies was marked by the Ministerial Decree published in the Official Gazette in November 2017, which identified the Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing (BES) indicators to be taken into account in the economic and financial planning process. Indeed, the 12 selected indicators must be included in the *Documento di Economia e Finanza* (Economic and Financial Document or DEF) outlining Italy’s three-year economic policy strategy. The decision to go “beyond GDP” in economic planning, namely beyond traditional measures, represents an impor-

tant step for Italy, which is the first country in the European Union and in the G7 to have introduced wellbeing objectives into economic policy by law. The 12 indicators selected, four of which had already been introduced on an experimental basis in the 2017 DEF, were chosen by a special committee, chaired by the Minister of the Economy and made up of experts in the field, including the ASviS Director, Enrico Giovannini. The indicators regard: adjusted average per capita disposable income; disposable income inequality; absolute poverty; healthy life expectancy at birth; overweight; early leavers from education and training; the rate of non-participation in the labour market, broken down by gender; the ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children; predatory crime; civil justice efficiency; CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions; illegal building.

On 15 February 2018 (as will now take place annually, in accordance with the provisions of Law 162/2016), the first report on the evolution of the BES indicators in the light of the Budget Law approved by Parliament at the end of the previous year was presented to Parliament. The timeframe is the three-year period to which the Budget Law refers. The report prepared by the then Minister of the Economy and Finance highlights the “experimental” nature of this first report which, in continuity with the 2017 DEF, develops an analysis of four out of the 12 selected indicators (adjusted average per capita disposable income, rate of non-participation in the labour market, disposable income inequality, CO₂ emissions and other greenhouse gases per capita). The DEF of April 2018 - approved by parliamentary majority in June - analyses all 12 indicators, although only the four included in the 2017 DEF provide projections for the period 2018-2021.

The commitment to education in sustainable development was significant. During the school year 2017/2018, the Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research implemented Memorandum of Understanding no. 3397 of 6 December 2016 with ASviS, which aims to: “Promote the dissemination of a culture of sustainability in view of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals”. This measure was supported and introduced for approximately 30,000 teachers during the training and trial year, via two separate actions:

- use of the content of the “2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals” e-learning course created by ASviS, via self-learning;
- compulsory participation in a 3-hour training workshop organised by the school responsible for training in the relevant local area.

The results of these activities were extremely positive. The schools responsible for training in the relevant local areas publicly selected teachers and experts to run the workshops and around 110 experts acted as teacher trainers. The initiative was monitored by the Ministry’s Directorate General for School Personnel, with support from the National Institute for Documentation, Innovation and Educational Research (*INDIRE*), and from the schools hosting and organising the training activities, which gathered data on the effectiveness of the workshops.

All 33,000 teachers attended the three-hour workshop on education for sustainable development and reported their experience on the platform managed by *INDIRE*. Moreover, trainee teachers were also asked to report on two teaching activities carried out in class with their students on the online platform. Preliminary data show that around 10,000 teachers have filed reports relating to the content learned during the training course.

In addition, the University Network for Sustainable Development (*RUS*) working group¹, coordinated by Enrico Giovannini, ASviS Director and member of the *RUS* coordination group, was launched. The group will promote the organisation of courses on the 2030 Agenda aimed at young university students.

Finally, the Italian version of the manual, “Education for Sustainable Development Goals”, produced by the *Commissione Nazionale Italiana per l’UNESCO* (Italian National Commission for UNESCO or *CNIU*) and its *Comitato Nazionale per l’Educazione alla Sostenibilità* (National Committee for Sustainability Education or *CNES*), the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), the UNESCO Centre, and the University of Turin, was published in November 2017. The aim of the document is to educate about sustainability, and to foster awareness of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The document contains learning objectives, themes and activities for each SDG and describes its implementation at various levels, including course design and the various national educational strategies.

2.2 Civil society engagement

At national level, in the last twelve months the themes of the 2030 Agenda have inspired not only the efforts of the government, but also those of many other stakeholders, such as the confederation of Italian industry, Confindustria, and the CGIL labour union. Sustainability is one of the cornerstones of the proposals that Confindustria President, Vincenzo Boccia, presented at the General Assembly of the Confindustria Confederation in February 2018. In the document, “The vision and the proposal”, which contains Italian industrialists’ programme for the next legislature, the third of the six key strands addresses the theme of “A sustainable Italy: investment as an insurance policy for the future”. The proposals in this area break down into three aspects: investing in the environment, the regions and culture to create development; developing mobility, logistics and communications; aligning energy costs with European averages. The drawing up of the proposals derives from 10 pre-Assembly meetings and four exploratory meetings held throughout Italy. At the same time, during the General Assembly, the Confindustria Research Centre published its biennial report, *Le sostenibili carte d’Italia* (“Italy’s sustainability advantages”).

In March 2018, the national branch of the CGIL presented the “Integrated Platform for Sustainable Development”, which aims to keep environmental protection, legality and job creation under the umbrella of the labour union’s contract initiatives and within the public economy in general. In an historic phase marked by two radical transitions - environmental and technological - which will profoundly affect lifestyle, economic and inevitably employment models, the CGIL has launched a “multi-level dispute” based on three vectors (air, water and land) and on issues relating to the urban environment such as mobility, waste management and construction.

In 2018, the permanent Third Sector Forum presented a document entitled “The Third Sector and the Sustainable Development Goals. Report 2017” in which the activities of the member organisations are interpreted and reviewed in the light of the SDGs. Via a survey carried out with questionnaires, the report shows how all the organisations are actively engaged in pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals. The majority of ASviS member organisations are involved in the achievement of nine of them. The report states that “the SDGs

may provide a gateway that enables the third sector to better understand its role in the communities where it operates, and its specific strength in the societies it helps to build”.

2.3 ASviS's activities

Organisational structure and cooperation with other partners

In September 2017, ASviS had 183 members. **Today, the Alliance includes 212 member organisations and 50 “associates”**, namely partners which, while not falling within the categories qualifying for membership, make a significant contribution to advancing the “cause” of sustainable development in Italy and thereby collaborate with the Alliance.

The activities of ASviS, defined by the General Assembly through an annually approved programme, are carried out via its 21 working groups (17 on SDGs and 4 on cross-cutting issues), in which around 300 experts appointed by the members participate. Two new working groups will be set up in the coming weeks: the first to look at sustainable finance, and the second the role of culture in achieving the SDGs.

The Secretariat supports implementation of the various initiatives, while the Editorial Board is responsible for managing the website and producing newsletters (published weekly and monthly), deemed to be a vital source of information on sustainable development issues in Italy.

Regarding the involvement of actors who have made sustainable development the centre of their action, the setting up of the *Rete delle Università per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile* (University Network for Sustainable Development or RUS), established by the Conference of Italian University Rectors is of significance. The main aim of the RUS is to spread sustainability culture and good practices, within and beyond universities, by sharing skills and experiences, so as to increase the positive environmental, ethical, social and economic impact of the initiatives implemented by individual universities, and also strengthen the recognition and value of Italian experience at international level. Currently, 59 universities are members of the RUS, which participate in the various working groups set up on the themes of mobility, waste management, energy efficiency, climate change and education for sustainable development. The network is also tasked with disseminating the values contained in the 2030 Agenda among young university students.

In addition to the RUS, ASviS also works closely with the Global Compact Network Italy Foundation and SDSN-Italia, which is part of the Sustain-

able Development Solutions Network, coordinated by Jeffrey Sachs on behalf of the United Nations. ASviS also belongs to:

- the European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN), an informal network of institutional actors, associations and experts which has been dealing with sustainable development policies and strategies since 2003;
- the SDG Watch Europe association, a European alliance of civil society organisations created to monitor implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development in the Old World.

ASviS is on the European Union's Transparency Register, which is jointly managed by the European Parliament and the Commission.

Regarding institutional collaborations, ASviS is part of the “2030 Agenda effectiveness, assessment and policy consistency” working group of the National Development Cooperation Council at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Sustainable Finance Observatory at the Ministry of the Environment.

Awareness raising, information and special projects

On the occasion of the election campaign for the 2018 parliamentary elections, ASviS launched an appeal to all political parties, which set out the fundamental initiatives to put Italy on a path of economic, social and environmental sustainability, whilst maintaining the commitments made at the UN with the signing of the 2030 Agenda in 2015. Specifically, ASviS requested commitment to:

1. Including the principle of sustainable development in the Constitution, as several European countries have already done.
2. Implementing an effective National Strategy for Sustainable Development aimed at complete attainment of the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda, to be achieved through strong coordination by the Cabinet Office.
3. Promoting the establishment of an intergroup for sustainable development within the future Parliament.
4. Respecting the Paris Agreements for combating climate change and ratifying the international agreements and protocols already signed by Italy regarding other sustainable development issues as soon as possible.

5. Turning the Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning (CIPE) into an Interministerial Committee for Sustainable Development, in order to direct public investment for this purpose.
6. Defining a national strategy to implement an Urban Agenda for sustainable development that complements the existing one for internal areas, thereby relaunching the Interministerial Committee for Urban Policies.
7. Setting up a permanent body at the Cabinet Office to consult civil society on gender equality policies.
8. Involving the Joint Conference in the coordination of sustainable development actions within the competence of central government, regional authorities and municipalities.
9. Achieving a share of Official Development Assistance equal to 0.7% of gross national income by 2025, in line with Italy's commitments to the United Nations.
10. Striving to ensure that the European Union puts its commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda at the centre of its new medium-term strategy.

The main political parties signed up to the commitments, with the exception of the Lega and Fratelli d'Italia. These concrete outcomes should be noted:

- several parties and movements that participated in the last elections included explicit references to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda in their electoral manifestos;
- a draft constitutional law has been presented regarding inclusion of the principle of sustainable development in the Constitution;
- the Prime Minister, who in his speech on the confidence motion before Parliament mentioned the issue of sustainable development, albeit briefly, has appointed a sustainable development advisor, in order to implement the Directive approved in March 2018 by the previous Prime Minister, Paolo Gentiloni;
- a parliamentary intergroup on sustainable development has been set up;
- the National Association of Italian Local Authorities (ANCI) has appointed the mayor of Bologna as coordinator of metropolitan areas for sustainable development.

The President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, received a delegation from ASviS at the Quirinal Palace on 2 August. Our President and Director, Pierluigi Stefanini and Enrico Giovannini, updated the head of state on the results obtained during the organisation's intense years of activity, especially those regarding the Sustainable Development Festival. President Mattarella, who proved to be attentive and highly aware of sustainable development issues, expressed his appreciation for the efforts ASviS is making, especially in the areas of training the younger generations and the involvement of political and social forces, and emphasised the need for Europe to be fully committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Several initiatives were implemented during 2018 to promote awareness of the 2030 Agenda in Italian society, with particular attention paid to the younger generations:

- the second edition of the **competition set up by ASviS and the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, "Let's score 17 Goals. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development"**, involved more than 200 Italian schools at all levels, with the aim of promoting awareness and the spread and adoption of the lifestyles provided for in the 2030 Agenda;
- the 2018 edition of the **competition, "Youth in Action for Sustainable Development Goals"**, which gathers and rewards the best ideas from young students for helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, was held. The competition, which is promoted by the Accenture Italian Foundation, the ENI Enrico Mattei Foundation and the Giangiacomo Feltrinelli Foundation, in collaboration with ASviS and with support from AIESEC, RUS and SDSN Youth, gives all participants the opportunity to learn more about the SDGs via the ideaTre60 digital learning platform. The finalists have a day of workshops to improve the ideas they will present to the final jury, and the winners have the opportunity to do internships in large not-for-profit and for-profit organisations;
- the **"Lavazza and Youth for SDGs" contest** was launched. This competition is aimed at university students from various universities throughout Italy who are doing different degree courses, including: medicine, engineering, law,

social sciences and others. The projects, written in English and relating to different countries around the world, must describe their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals and analyse their various interconnections.

Also in view of the general election, ASviS hosted the weekly radio programme, “Alta Sostenibilità” (High Sustainability), on Radio Radicale, which will resume in mid-October. After the positive experience gained during the Festival, the efforts of the ASviS online video channel continued to enhance the activities of the Alliance and its members.

In March, ASviS and the National Centre for Urban Policy Studies (Urban@it) published “The Urban Agenda for Sustainable Development” which was created with the aim of getting citizens to identify quantitative and measurable targets in order to guide actions by government and other urban actors. The Urban Agenda, which was drawn up with the help of dozens of experts in the field, shows how mayors can draw inspiration from the 2030 Agenda to address crucial issues affecting our cities in a coordinated way, ranging from combating poverty to energy efficiency, and from sustainable mobility to social inclusion. By adopting EUROSTAT indicators regarding the degree of urbanisation and linking the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda to the 12 priority themes of the Urban Agenda for the European Union, the document shows how city administrations, and especially those of larger cities, can use the pursuit of economic, social and environmental sustainability as a reference framework to manage their policies in an innovative way. This means going beyond the sectoral approaches, albeit useful for improving the quality of citizens’ lives, that often characterise the interventions made in the same area by different actors.

In addition to cities, the role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals is crucial. With this in mind, the ASviS-CNA pilot project on the role of SMEs in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda was undertaken, with the aim of drawing up a sustainability policy for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Rome and its surrounding province, and assessing their impact on the SDGs and their contribution to implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. As part of the project, the study entitled “Sustainable development: the commit-

ments and contribution of SMEs in the province of Rome” was presented in June 2018. Even though SMEs are the backbone of the Italian economy, the National Strategy for Sustainable Development doesn’t define their role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda Goals. For this reason, the CNA-ASviS project aimed, on the one hand, to explore the contribution that SMEs already make to sustainable development, whether consciously or unconsciously, and, on the other, to come up with new ideas for improving their business models. This is the first step in identifying concrete actions towards sustainable development in three specific business sectors in Rome: food processing, plant engineering and joinery.

From 2 to 18 October 2017, the ASviS “A Goal per day” campaign was held, via which the in-depth analyses contained in the previous ASviS Report on Italy’s position with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda were disseminated. The 17-day campaign, with one day for each Goal, was launched on the ASviS Twitter and Facebook profiles with 120 in-depth posts (one for each Goal on Facebook, and four on Twitter) and was also distributed via email to over 9,000 subscribers to the ASviS newsletter. The initiative was warmly welcomed by the media. A total of 145,000 social media views were achieved, increasing the number of followers on both Alliance profiles.

With a view to raising awareness of sustainable development issues among a wide sector of the population, including through social media, ASviS continued the Lavazza #2030whatatareUdoing campaign, which is aimed at describing projects for improving Italy’s environmental, social and economic situation. More than 400 concrete actions were shared via thousands of contributions. Compared with the previous year, thanks to public awareness-raising activities and the publication of updates on the most important news about sustainability in Italy and worldwide via social media networks and the website, followers have grown from 3,500 to over 14,400 on Facebook and from 1,650 to 5,110 on Twitter, while the number of users of the www.asvis.it portal has doubled.

In October 2017, ASviS collaborated in the presentation of the World Food Programme report, “At the root of exodus: food security, conflict and international migration”, which took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The document examines the link be-

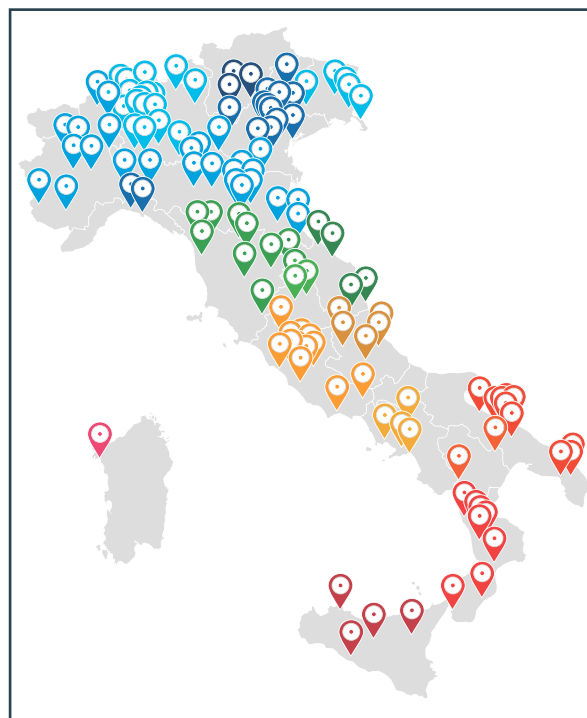
on ASviS channels of live streaming of the three events organised by the Secretariat;

- over 500 press, web, and TV and radio reports. The newscast ASviS produced and broadcast every day from the festival with reports of daily events was also highly appreciated by users.

Moreover, many new projects and partnerships arose from the festival and from ASviS's activities, involving public and private institutions, companies and foundations, including:

- the **“ToWARD 2030: What are you doing?” project**, launched by the City of Turin, Lavazza and ASviS to publicise sustainability issues. The walls of the city were turned into canvases on which 17 Italian and international artists interpreted a Goal from the 2030 Agenda, according to their own approaches and styles. The aim was to provide an artistic format which, through a widely understood and immediate form of expression like street art, enabled widespread dissemination of the messages of the 17 United Nations SDGs;
- the **Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice and the MAXXI in Rome offered itineraries for re-interpreting the works on display in the permanent collection through the lens of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 SDGs**. The Guggenheim Museum also organised three evening events to tell unusual stories, each of which touched on a theme relating to sustainable development and social and cultural inclusion. In addition, comprehensive tours were offered in the rooms of the museum to bring the public closer to these themes through the works collected by Peggy Guggenheim;
- in **Parma, the “The Third Day” exhibition offered a new insight into the theme of sustainability**, to reflect on the themes of the environment and the relationship between man and nature through an evocative and poetic narrative. The itinerary comprised photographic images, installations, works created on the spot and paintings, involving internationally renowned artists;
- over the weekend of 26-27 May, **Sky Cinema dedicated one of its channels to a marathon of films and documentaries** in which sustainable development issues played a leading role;
- thanks to the collaboration established with CONI, **during the last day of the Serie A cham-**

Figure 2 - The places of the 2018 Sustainable Development Festival



pionship, before the matches, children went onto the pitch with the Festival banner, while the video of the “Without you there is no sustainable development” campaign was shown on stadium screens;

- the **“Forum PA 2018 Award”**, organised by Forum PA in collaboration with ASviS, made awards for innovative public administration projects and solutions, and to regions for themes relating to the 17 SDGs;
- the **“Goal 2030” platform**, designed by Earth Day Italy and ASviS was launched online. Its purpose is to identify the organisations engaged in achieving the SDGs nationwide, putting them in touch in order to facilitate the networking of ideas and projects;
- on the occasion of the Festival, **Punto Sud launched the European “NoPlanetB” project in Italy**, through which €100,000 has been made available for small loans relating to sustainable development projects in Italy;
- an **ethical cash mob**, organised by NeXt, Coop and ASviS, was held in 12 Coop stores throughout Italy to raise consumer awareness of more informed and aware choices and to put sustainable development at the centre of our consumption habits;

- for children, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC), ASviS created the Italian version of the board game, “Go Goals!”;
- the Summer School on Sustainable Development was launched, organised by ASviS in collaboration with the Enel Foundation, Leonardo, the University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS), the Sustainable Development Solutions Network Italy, the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and the University of Siena’s Santa Chiara Lab;
- during the period of the Festival, the e-learning course entitled “The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals”, which was created by the Alliance to explain the 17 SDGs in a simple and accessible way, was made available free of charge on the ASviS website.

Education for sustainable development

In addition to the Festival, the Alliance has been particularly engaged in educational activities for sustainable development, which appears to be an increasingly crucial factor in implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As mentioned in the document, **Italian Strategy for Education for Global Citizenship**, which ASviS also helped to draft, the main frame of reference for education for global citizenship is deemed to be the United Nations, and especially UNESCO. Back in 1948, the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights stated that: “Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace”.

The same principle has been taken up several times by UNESCO over the years, right up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Target 4.7 clearly states: “By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development”.

E-LEARNING ON THE 2030 AGENDA

The e-learning course “The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals”, created by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), is aimed at explaining in a simple and accessible way the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These were approved in September 2015 by the United Nations and should be achieved worldwide by 2030. The course breaks down into 20 modules and lasts for a total of approximately three hours.

The first three modules aim to provide an overview of the 2030 Agenda, and implementation and measurement strategies for the Goals; the remaining modules are dedicated to each of the 17 Goals. The training course is enriched with multimedia educational content, interactive exercises and references to current events in order to show the relevance of the 2030 Agenda in the international and Italian context, as well as in people’s everyday lives.

The course is delivered asynchronously, on a platform that records access and attendance, and enables the use of bookmarks and a help desk. A certificate attesting completion of the training activities will be issued at the end of the course. The course is available at www.asvis.it.

At European level, ASviS is a partner in the European project, “Schools for the UN Sustainable Development Goals implementation” (Sudego), which is part of the Erasmus+ programme. In particular, the project was set up in response to the second priority for school education (promoting skills acquisition) and the first horizontal priority (encouraging attainment of relevant, high-quality skills, and supporting individuals in the acquisition and development of key skills) of the Erasmus+ programme. In addition to Italy, the other countries involved are Spain, Finland, the United Kingdom and Bulgaria. The project is primarily aimed at secondary school teachers, with students from the same educational cycles as final beneficiaries, but also seeks to involve business and public sector stakeholders, and decisionmakers in the field of education. The project will end in November 2019.

At national level, ASviS participated in the “Agent 0011 - license to save the planet” project, an interactive digital space where teachers and students from all over Italy share ideas, opinions and good practices, thereby actively contributing to the development of an authentic and original sustainability culture. Via the portal, students are active at local level to achieve more sustainable and inclusive cities (SDG 11) and a more responsible approach towards the 2030 Agenda by Italy. In addition to ASviS, the consortium created for the project, co-financed by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), includes important associational, training and private organisations: ActionAid, AMREF, Cesvi, CittadinanzAttiva, La Fabbrica, and VIS, as well as - within the framework of regional planning - La Sapienza University of Rome, the University of Turin, the Catholic University of Milan, the Naples Eastern University and Tam Tam d’Afrique.

In 2018, the MARIS master’s degree in “Sustainability, Innovation and Reporting” at the faculty of economics of the University of Rome Tor Vergata was launched, of which ASviS is a partner. The master’s provides excellent postgraduate training on social responsibility and accountability, shared value creation and sustainable development, from a cross-cutting (private, for-profit and non-profit, and the public sector) and interdisciplinary (economics, biology, engineering, law, etc.) perspective, in accordance with a triple bottom line approach, in line with the 2030 Agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

ASviS also collaborated in the definition of the LUMSA master’s degree in management for the SDGs, and contributes to the development of the University of Bologna’s master’s degree in journalism with a specialisation in sustainable development and the University of Venice Ca’ Foscari’s master’s degree in global economics and social affairs, as well as courses at the National School of Administration (SNA). In November, the SNA will launch the “Sustainability manager” diploma course, aimed at central government authorities to enable them to be fully aware of their role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In order to raise general awareness of the importance of the 2030 Agenda, ASviS has aired a series of videos on its channels recorded at the seminar course on sustainable development held at LUISS University in September and November 2017.

THE ASviS SUMMER SCHOOL ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The first Summer School on Sustainable Development took place in Siena from 10 to 21 September. It was organised by ASviS in collaboration with the Enel Foundation, Leonardo, the University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS), the Sustainable Development Solutions Network Italy, the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and the University of Siena’s Santa Chiara Lab. 30 participants were admitted to the Summer School, including PhD students, researchers, administrators, managers and public sector executives.

This is a unique opportunity in Italy for advanced training on sustainability issues, a sector that companies are also increasingly focusing on to create new business models, innovative business strategies and new financing methods. The Summer School highlights the systemic logic of sustainable development, addressing the issues of environmental, economic and social sustainability through an interdisciplinary approach, and paying particular attention to understanding the challenges and problems that arise in the absence of sustainability, the promotion of concrete solutions, and essential monitoring mechanisms. The Summer School course consists of theoretical lessons, seminars and group work, with the participation of academics and experts from institutions, companies and international organisations. After a week that is common to all students, the second week is dedicated to teaching and case studies dealing with four themes: sectoral policies, science and innovation, private sector development and sustainable business management.

At the end of the formal training, an alumni network will be set up which - in addition to sharing the required precise knowledge that underlies sustainable development - will form the core of a support network for implementation of the 2030 Agenda that operates over time, including the use of teaching and reporting methods based on social media and other digital tools. Students’ contributions, together with those from some Rectors, will be fed into the Enel Foundation project leading to publication of an e-book on sustainable development and the related online platform created with the Treccani Institute.

Again in the academic field, collaboration was launched between ASviS and the University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS), created by the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI), which brings together 59 Italian universities and became a member of ASviS in October 2017. Finally, ASviS is a member of the scientific committee of the ALTIS-Catholic University advanced training course, “The CSR profession and sustainability: developing sustainability policies for the creation of shared value”, which is in its 15th edition.

The development of statistical and analytical tools

In order to monitor Italy’s situation with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with its Report in 2017, ASviS introduced a series of original and innovative statistical and analytical tools, which are unique in the international arena. Statistical data are updated periodically as new and improved indicators become available to monitor the 17 Goals. The Asset platform, developed by Forum PA, is the graphical analysis system used by ASviS that enables consultation of the values and trends of 190 basic indicators, provided mostly by ISTAT, broken down by Goal. Starting from the www.asvis.it/dati website, the platform allows each indicator to be viewed in three ways: graphics, maps and tables. It is also possible to download historical series, export data, and make comparisons between regions and macro-regions across more indicators, including for different Goals.

Based on these indicators, ASviS has calculated a composite indicator for each of the 17 Goals at national level. The first set of indicators was published in the Report for 2017, while at the beginning of 2018 an update for 2016 was published, based on new data provided by ISTAT.

In this Report, however, the composite indicators are presented for the first time on a regional basis, computed using the same methodology that was used for the national indicators (see Chapter 3).

At the 2018 Festival, ASviS also carried out a study dedicated to monitoring the SDGs in Europe, which presents composite indicators (also used in this chapter) that measure the sustainability of the 28 member states of the European Union. The indicators presented for individual EU

countries and for the European Union as a whole summarise 66 basic statistical indicators supplied by EUROSTAT, which, for the period 2010-2016, provide a clear picture of the evolution of the economic, social, environmental and institutional conditions of Europe with respect to the SDGs.

2.4 How does Italy rank with respect to the SDGs

In 2017, ASviS presented a first version of the composite indicators developed to describe Italy's performance with respect to the 17 SDGs, and in February of this year an update for 2017 was published, partly in the light of data provided by ISTAT. The data presented here benefit from the publication by the first ISTAT Report on the SDGs, presented last July, which included new elementary indicators. As a result of these updates, the composite indicators have undergone some changes that are particularly significant for Goals 2, 6 and 7.

Between 2010 and 2016, Italy showed signs of improvement in eight areas: food and sustainable agriculture, health, education, gender equality, innovation, sustainable patterns of production and consumption, combating climate change, and international cooperation. In five other areas, however, the situation has significantly worsened: poverty, economic and employment conditions, inequalities, urban conditions, and the terrestrial ecosystem. For the remaining four Goals (clean water and sanitation, the energy system, the condition of the sea, and the quality of governance, peace, justice and strong institutions), the situation appears to be substantially unchanged.

The indicators were developed using the Adjusted Mazziotta-Pareto Index (AMPI) method, which was also adopted by ISTAT to develop the composite indicators for the BES. Specifically, a composite indicator (starting from more than 95 elementary indicators) was developed for 15 out of the 17 Objectives, while for Goals 13 and 17 it was decided to continue using a single headline indicator. Both the indicators provided by ISTAT and the composite indicators are available in the ASviS database, which also contains data for the different regions (for an analysis of the composite indicators broken down by region, see Chapter 3).

The Italian figure for 2010 represents the base value (equal to 100) and the indicators show the improvement (if the value rises) or the deterioration (if it falls) of the situation compared to the value for 2010. If a composite indicator shows improvement, this doesn't necessarily mean that Italy is on a path that will enable it to meet the Goals by 2030, but merely that "on average" the country is moving in the right direction, as it doesn't take into account the distribution (i.e. aspects relating to inequalities) of the phenomenon.

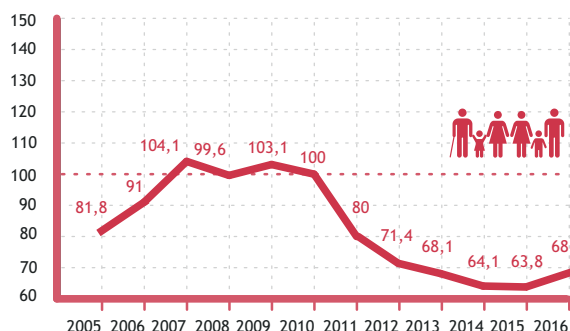
Between 2010 and 2016 the situation improved significantly for these Goals:

- **Goal 2** (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture). After an initial deterioration in the period 2010-2011, this indicator has shown a marked improvement over the years. In the last two years, the positive trend is due to a decrease in the overweight population, an increase in agricultural productivity, and in the proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation;²
- **Goal 3** (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages). This indicator has improved over the years, mainly due to reductions in mortalities resulting from road traffic accidents and in the percentage of caesarean sections, despite the increase in the number of people seriously injured in road traffic accidents in 2016;
- **Goal 4** (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all). This indicator has significantly improved. Compared to 2015, the proportion of people aged 30 to 34 with a university degree continues to improve, and the rate of early leavers from education and training continues to decline. However, despite improvements, Italy still lags far behind the European average for all education and training indicators;³
- **Goal 5** (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). After the sharp increase recorded until 2015, there was a decline in 2016, explained by the decrease in the ratio between the employment rates for women with children of pre-school age and for those without children, and by the sharp fall in the participation of women in decision-making bodies;
- **Goal 9** (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation). Indicators regarding households with access to broadband, internet use and the proportion of knowledge workers in the workforce continue to improve significantly. In addition, the value added by manufacturing industry is increasing, albeit with higher CO₂ emissions per unit of value added and low levels of productivity;⁴

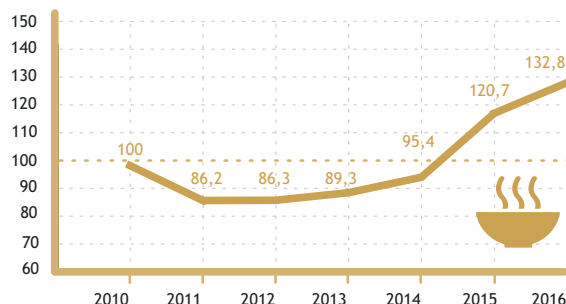
Figure 3 - Summary indicators for Italy

GOAL 1

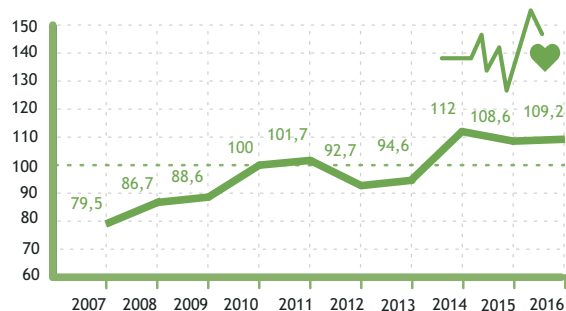
End poverty in all its forms everywhere

**GOAL 2**

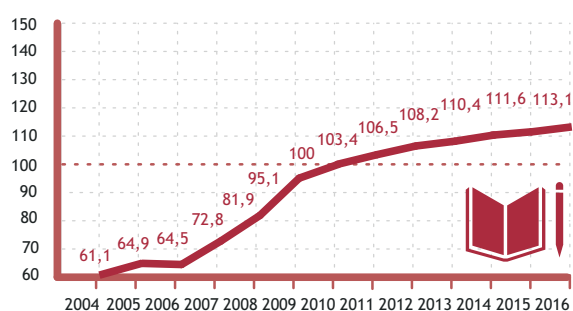
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

**GOAL 3**

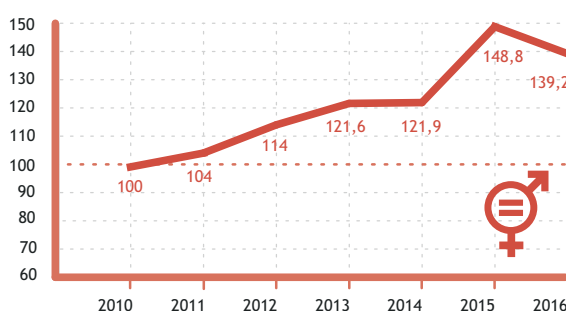
Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

**GOAL 4**

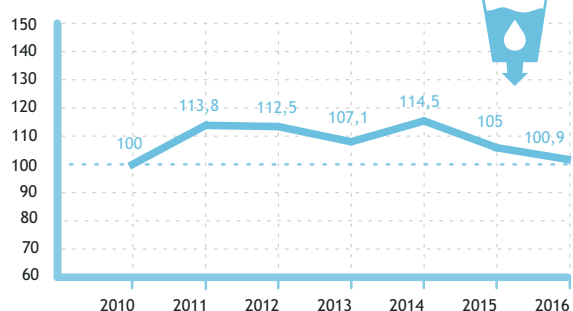
Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

**GOAL 5**

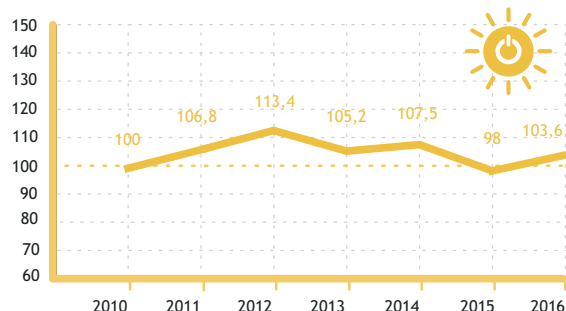
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

**GOAL 6**

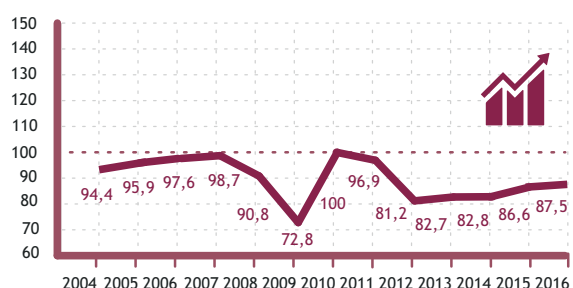
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

**GOAL 7**

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

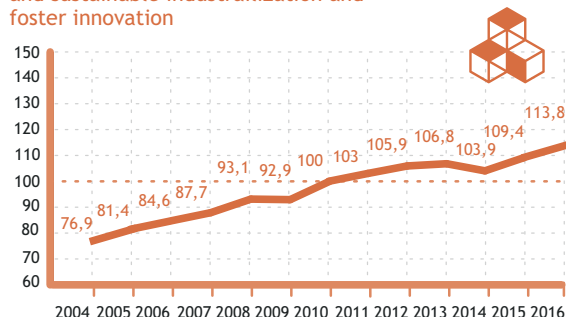
**GOAL 8**

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



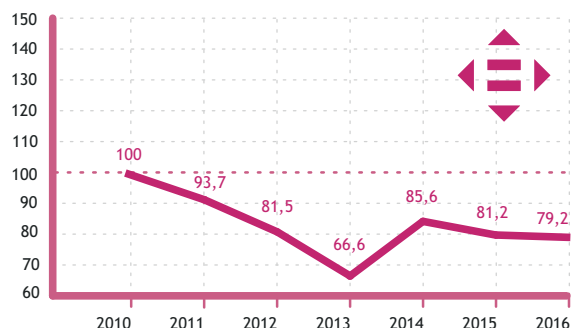
GOAL 9

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



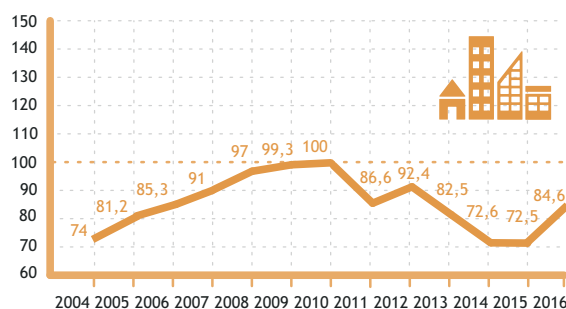
GOAL 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries



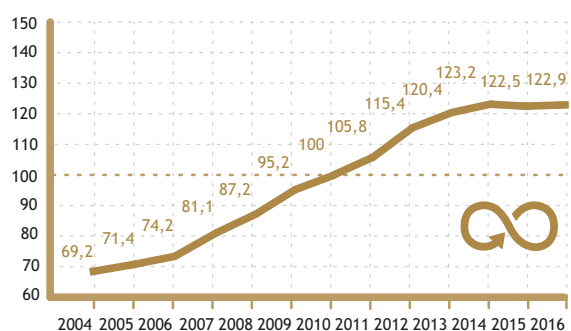
GOAL 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



GOAL 12

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



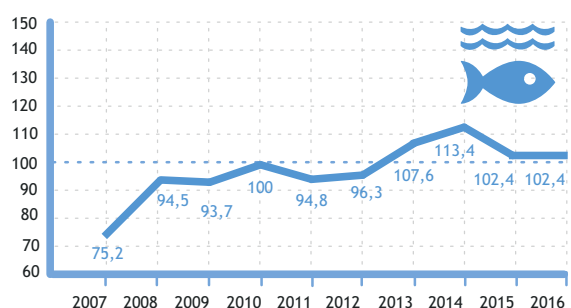
GOAL 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



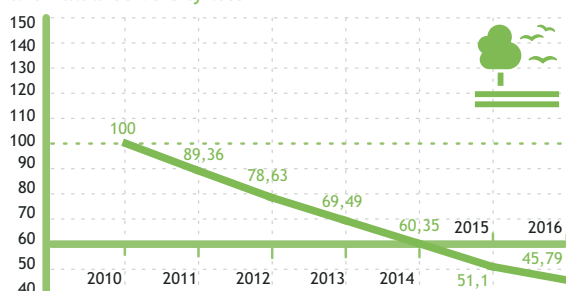
GOAL 14

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



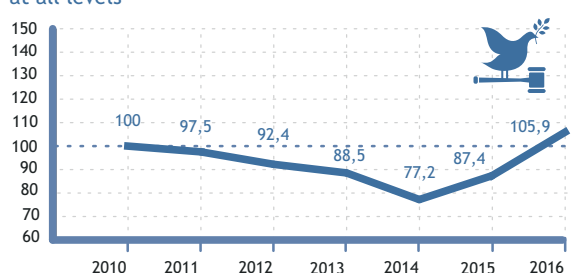
GOAL 15

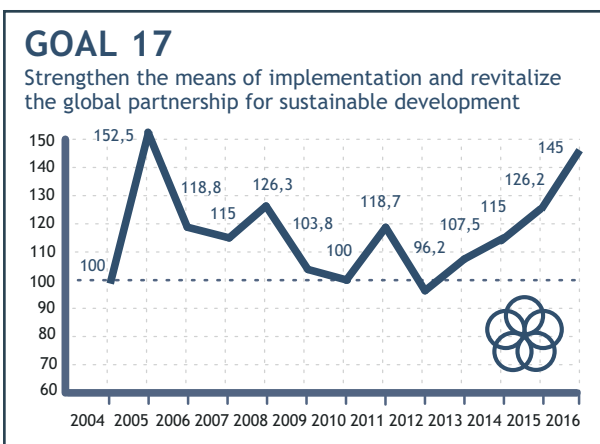
Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



GOAL 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels





- **Goal 12** (Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns). This indicator has risen significantly due to both the decrease in material consumption (largely as a result of the economic crisis) and an increase in the percentage of recycled waste collected, despite the increase in the amount of urban waste produced during 2016;⁵
- **Goal 13** (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts). The headline indicator (total greenhouse gases according to air emissions accounts) improved until 2014 largely due to the reduction in emissions induced by the economic crisis, and has then worsened in the last two years, in line with the recovery of GDP;
- **Goal 17** (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development). The headline indicator - represented by the share of Official Development Assistance (ODA) in gross national income - increased significantly in the three-year period 2014-2016, as it includes the costs of receiving refugees, who account for more than 30% of ODA.

The situation is significantly worse for these Goals:

- **Goal 1** (End poverty in all its forms everywhere). This indicator, after the sharp decline from 2010 to 2014, is still at very low levels. Absolute and relative poverty have worsened, as has the number of persons in households with low levels of employment. In the last two years, however, the percentages of people living in poor-quality dwellings and households who cannot afford to heat their homes adequately have fallen. The new data from ISTAT show that between

2015 and 2016 the proportion of the population aged 16 and over who didn't receive the medical care they needed because it was too expensive decreased. This phenomenon generates a slight improvement trend in the composite indicator (not recorded in the previous version);

- **Goal 8** (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all). This indicator is strongly influenced by the economic cycle. Indeed, after the sharp decline during the period 2011-2012, in which the rate of non-participation in employment and the proportion of young NEETs had increased, the two-year period 2015-2016 saw a slow recovery, driven by a rise in employment;
- **Goal 10** (Reduce inequality within and among countries). From 2010 onwards, the indicator for Italy shows a clear deterioration. Although disposable income has risen since 2014, at the same time the ratio between the income of the richest and the poorest people and the percentage of people living in households with disposable income below 60% of the median income has increased. It should be noted that, in developing the composite indicator, a new indicator of the ratio between the incomes of Italian and foreign households has been introduced;
- **Goal 11** (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable). The comparison with 2010 continues to be negative, even though in the last year the trend towards improvement has continued, due to a decrease in the poor-quality housing and dwellings, together with a reduction in the proportion of total urban waste collected that is sent to landfill;
- **Goal 15** (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss). The composite indicator, which is no longer calculated on the basis of a headline indicator but rather by summarising the land cover and territorial fragmentation indicators⁶, shows an extremely negative trend caused by the sharp deterioration in both elementary indicators.

The situation is unchanged for these Goals:

- **Goal 6** (Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all). This indicator showed a positive trend until 2014, followed by a two-year period of sharp decline. It should be noted that, in developing the composite indicator, two new elementary indicators have been introduced, relating to households who do not trust their tap water for drinking purposes, and to those who complain about irregularities in the water supply. The positive trend observed between 2010 and 2014 appears to be due to a reduction in households who do not trust their tap water for drinking purposes, while the subsequent deterioration is determined by a decrease in the efficiency of drinking water distribution;
- **Goal 7** (Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all). This composite indicator, after an initial increase, tended to settle at the levels recorded in 2010. Compared to that year, the consumption of energy covered by renewable sources has risen, while gross internal consumption (tonnes of oil equivalent) has declined. However, with the economic recovery the situation has deteriorated again;⁷
- **Goal 14** (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development). Following the revisions of ISTAT data in July, the trend in the composite indicator in recent years confirms a level very close to the values recorded in 2010;
- **Goal 16** (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels). This indicator shows a negative trend until 2014, before improving considerably, thanks to a significant reduction in the average duration of civil cases.⁸

2.5 The evolution of legislation in relation to the various Goals

The last twelve months have been affected by the holding of national parliamentary elections, which have, in fact, led to a standstill in legislative activity lasting several months. Moreover, while some important measures were adopted in the final months of the previous legislature, the issuing of implementing decrees was very limited, resulting in the ineffectiveness of the new regulations.

The lengthy gestation period of the new government, which was formed at the beginning of June, also meant that the new structure became fully operational as parliamentary proceedings were about to be interrupted for the summer break. Consequently, the government has announced the forthcoming launch of important reform initiatives, which, however, cannot be assessed in this Report.

GOAL 1 - NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

ISTAT's SDG Report for 2018 shows that the population in Italy at risk of poverty and social exclusion amounts to 30%, a percentage that is up on the previous year and reveals how far we are from achieving the target set by Europe 2020. In 2017, 1,778 million households (6.9%) were in absolute poverty, amounting to a total of 5.58 million people (8.4% of the entire population), the highest level since 2005. 20.6% of the population is in income poverty (up from 19.9% in 2015) and 12.1% is experiencing severe material deprivation. Young families, in particular, are the most penalised (with an incidence of 9.6%) and the condition of minors is the cause for greatest concern: 12.1% of minors are in absolute poverty, for a total of 1,208 million children. Almost half (46.9%) of those at risk of poverty or social exclusion are in southern Italy, where the highest rate of people in absolute poverty (10.3% of households and 11.4% of individuals) has been recorded.

The main innovation in combating poverty has been the implementation of Inclusion Income (Rel), the first universal measure to combat poverty in Italy. Enabling Act 33 of 15 March 2017 ("Enabling act containing regulations relating to combating poverty, the reform of benefits and of

the welfare and social services system”) was implemented with Legislative Decree 147 of 15 September 2017. Therefore, from 1 December 2017, it became possible to apply for Rel, and as of 1 January 2018 the measure became operational. In March 2018, a total of approximately 230,000 households, corresponding to almost 800,000 people, namely around 50% of the potential target, were beneficiaries of Rel or Support for Active Inclusion (SIA).

Even before the measure was activated, the Budget Law for 2018 (Law 205/2017) had modified Rel, expanding the number of potential beneficiaries and increasing the resources to be allocated to large families. Finally, on 10 May 2018, the “National plan for welfare initiatives and social services to combat poverty 2018-2020”, which represents the planning tool for using the so-called “services quota” of the Poverty Fund⁹, was definitively approved.

In line with trials of the new Carta Acquisti (Social Card) and Support for Active Inclusion, Rel breaks down into a financial benefit and a personal services component that must be guaranteed at local level. The financial benefit varies according to the size of the family making an application, and is commensurate with the financial resources available to that family. The active part of the measure entails implementation of a personalised inclusion project prepared by a multidisciplinary team set up by the local authorities concerned (in collaboration with the competent local employment services, training, housing policy, healthcare and educational authorities) and in line with general social service principles.

These applicants may benefit from the measure: a) European Union citizens, or persons with a family member who has the right of residence or the right of permanent residence, or third-country nationals who have an EU long-term residence permit; b) Persons resident in Italy, on a continuous basis, for at least two years at the time of submission of the application.

A family must jointly meet these requirements: a) an Equivalent Economic Status Indicator (ISEE) value not exceeding €6,000; b) an Equivalent Income Status Indicator (ISRE) value (the ISEE income indicator, i.e. the Equivalent Income Status divided by the equivalence scale, before increases) not exceeding €3,000; c) real estate assets, other than place of residence, with a value not exceeding €20,000; d) movable assets (de-

posits, current accounts) with a value not exceeding €10,000 (reduced to €8,000 for a couple and to €6,000 for a single person).

To access Rel, it is also required that each family member: (a) does not receive unemployment benefit (NASpl) or other income support benefits in the event of involuntary redundancy; (b) does not own any motor vehicles and/or motorcycles registered for the first time in the 24 months preceding the application (motor vehicles and motorcycles for which tax relief is granted to persons with disabilities are excluded); (c) does not own any boats or recreational craft.

The National Fund for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion is primarily intended to cover the passive part of Rel. Approximately €1.7 billion has been allocated for economic transfers in 2018, rising to €2.2 billion in 2019. As already mentioned, the Fund also has other functions. In accordance with Legislative Decree 147/2017, the services that must accompany Rel are not limited to those provided on an ordinary basis at regional level (as, for example, is the case for SIA). Thanks to the Fund, additional interventions and services are also provided and thus become core elements of the services provided.

The Fund, and consequently also its “services quota”, is a structural form of financing and is therefore permanently recorded in the public accounts. The “services quota” amounts to €297 million in 2018, €347 million in 2019 and €470 million from 2020. For each year, €20 million have been earmarked for interventions on behalf of the homeless (and more generally, those in extreme poverty), and €5 million (for a three-year period on an experimental basis, unlike other the other allocations) for those who have just turned 18 and are leaving social care after estrangement from their family of origin. The remainder, allocated to finance implementation of the core elements relating to Rel, amounts to €272 million in 2018, €322 million in 2019 and €445 million in 2020.

In this context, it is clear that the intervention has two critical points, although it should also be welcomed as an important first step. On the one hand, the limited impact of the measure benefits only a portion of the people and households in absolute poverty, and appears insufficient to achieve Target 1.2. On the other hand, oversight is still lacking to produce a systematic plan and bring together and coordinate different policies - not only those linked to income support and active social

inclusion - for combating a multidimensional phenomenon that regards various aspects: income, access to credit and economic resources (Target 1.4), adequate basic social protection services (Target 1.3), combating early school leaving and the housing crisis.

Finally, the new government's commitment to launch the introduction of a basic income, already in the next Budget Law, as set out in the contract between the two coalition partners, should be borne in mind: "The measure is a means of income support for Italian citizens who are in need; the amount of the payment is established on the basis of the at-risk-of-poverty threshold calculated with respect to both income and wealth. The amount is set at €780 per month per single person, parameterized on the basis of the OECD scale for larger families. €17 billion will be allocated annually for this purpose".

GOAL 2 - ZERO HUNGER

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Italy, as shown by ISTAT SDG Report, has seen some significant developments regarding the Goal 2 targets. Between 2010 and 2016, the proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation doubled (from 6.1% to 12.3%), while the productivity and profitability of small farms improved.

The previously mentioned Legislative Decree 147 of 15 September 2017, "Provisions for the introduction of national measures to combat poverty", which introduced Rel, may also make a positive contribution to eliminating food poverty. This phenomenon should also be indirectly affected by Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Decree 14771 of 18 December 2017, which will make certified "organic school canteens" operational from next September. "Organic" certification for school meals in nurseries, kindergartens, primary schools and secondary schools was introduced by Law Decree 50 of 24 April 2017, converted with amendments by Law 96 of 21 June 2017. A €34-million fund has been set aside for this initiative for the period 2017-2020 (€4 million for 2017, and €10 million per year for the three-year period 2018-2020), with a view to reducing the costs of the organic school canteen service borne by beneficiaries, and implementing initiatives to provide information about and promote the consump-

tion of environmentally-sustainable organic products in schools.

In addition to the financial aspects, this measure has a systemic value with respect to the issues relating to Goal 2. It is perfectly compatible with the promotion of a diet in which certified quality products are consumed, and with the need to gear the agricultural sector towards more sustainable production models, which can remain competitive whilst meeting social, environmental and institutional requirements.

With regard to the impact of the food system on health, on 5 April 2011, Legislative Decree 145 of 15 September 2017, "Regulations governing the compulsory indication on labels of the registered office and address of the production plant or, if different, the packaging plant", which obliges operators to indicate the location and address of the production or packaging plant, was implemented. The obligation applies to food produced in Italy for the Italian market. This ensures that consumers are fully and correctly informed, that food is better and more easily traceable by monitoring bodies and, consequently, that health protection is more effective.

The long-awaited Ministerial Decree 1862 of 18 January 2018 was then issued, which regulates the "Operating procedures of the National Register of Agriculture and Food Biodiversity". This will effectively implement the management tool for the National Agriculture and Food Biodiversity System, established by the Biodiversity Protection Law of 2015.

Also relevant in the context of the protection of natural assets, is Law 127 of 25 July 2017, "Provisions for the protection of traditional citrus groves", which will enable support and protection of citrus fruit growing areas. The objective is to safeguard the distinctiveness of our natural resources, according citrus growers a vital role in environmental and landscape protection, especially in certain areas at high risk of hydrogeological instability.

As regards the need to boost the competitiveness of the agri-food system while meeting social, environmental and institutional requirements (so-called "sustainable performance"), the most important measures approved in the period under consideration do not have immediate effects, but they do lay the foundations for building the sector's future competitiveness. Specifically, on 18 June 2018, the new Regulation (EU) 2018/848 re-

garding organic farming was approved and will come into force in 2021. It is therefore important for Italy, a leader in this sector, to seek to ensure that all the changes deemed necessary are implemented so as not to affect recognised organic production quality levels, such as the lowering of thresholds for pesticide residues.

On 7 June 2018 the “Omnibus Regulation” was approved, which represents a real medium-term reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the period 2014-2020. This measure brings considerable administrative simplification, greater flexibility in the greening regulations and the possibility of increasing basic payments for young farmers, all variables that can have a positive impact on the sector’s performance.

Finally, given that one of the commitments Italy needs to make to achieve the Goal 2 targets regards the international dimension, it should be noted that in recent months three aspects that might jeopardise the performance of agriculture in developing countries have come to light: a) no progress has been made regarding the share of Official Development Assistance (ODA), which is still a long way from 0.7% of GDP; (b) the protectionism and uncertainty that is emerging in international trade policies may also have negative repercussions on developing countries’ exports; and (c) critical issues in multilateral trade agreements may jeopardise the means of stabilising income from the export of agri-food products.

GOAL 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

The ISTAT 2018 Report on the SDGs recalls that, with regard to Goal 3, Italy achieved the targets set for neonatal mortality and under-five mortality a long time ago, ranking among the best-performing countries with the lowest infant mortality, and the figure continues to improve, even in southern Italy.

Since 2004, the mortality rate in the 30-69 age bracket for malignant tumours, diabetes mellitus, cardiovascular diseases and chronic respiratory diseases has also been steadily decreasing, although the stalling of the downward trend since 2015 could jeopardise achievement of the proposed 2030 target. The number of suicides is low

compared to the rest of Europe and the number of deaths in road traffic accidents almost halved between 2004 and 2016, but even in this case the decline has been slowing down since 2013, and 2017 even saw an increase in deaths, especially among the elderly. The number of smokers has fallen among people aged 15 and over, especially since 2009, but here too the figure has flatlined in the last year. Childhood vaccinations, which have been decreasing since 2013, have increased in the short term, as a result of the Vaccines Decree of July 2017.

The “State of Health in the EU” (2017) survey, carried out by the OECD and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies in collaboration with the European Commission, analyses the strengths of Italy’s health system and its critical points. One of the most significant indicators is undoubtedly life expectancy and avoidable mortality, which puts us far above the European average. Critical issues include public spending (10% lower than the European average - compared to GDP per capita), the high percentage of direct costs borne by patients (23% compared to the European average of 15%), waiting lists, and the profound regional inequalities in accessing health services and facilities.

Over the last year, parliamentary and governmental legislative activities regarding health and well-being issues have been deployed in courses of action relating, in particular, to prevention, health governance, the issue of disabilities and sectors with poor coverage. Regarding prevention, the issue that has attracted most public attention is vaccination coverage for school-age children. In September 2017, via a joint circular, the competent ministries (the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research and the Ministry of Health) launched stringent operational guidelines on implementation of the law regarding compulsory vaccination and its certification for schools. The new health minister in the current coalition government, who took office on 1 June 2018, introduced a measure to simplify school procedures, with the introduction of self-certification by families, and announced a substantial change in the legislation.

In terms of health governance, Law 3/2018, regarding associations representing health professionals in Italy, established 17 new registers for health professions that did not previously have them. In addition, regarding the issue of cost-

sharing, the 2018 Budget Law introduced a fund of €60 million to reduce the charges payable by patients, deemed to be an instrument that creates substantial inequalities among citizens from different regions.

More directly connected to the interlinkage between social wellbeing, rights and health is Law 219 of 22 December 2017 regarding “Informed consent and early treatment arrangements”, which regulates the patient-doctor relationship and the role relatives should play in taking end-of-life therapeutic decisions. A fund to assist children with cancer has also been set up for the period 2017-2019, and the provisions of the so-called “Birth Package”, including the Baby Bonus, have been renewed, albeit with certain limitations.

Regarding the care needs of people who are not independent and the disabled, which has been a crucial issue in Italy and in other developed countries for some years now, at the end of 2017 the Italian Social Insurance Agency (INPS) fund relating to disabled people’s right to work (the Ministerial Decree of 29 September 2017) was increased. Moreover, art. 21 of Legislative Decree 147/2017, which establishes the Rel, allocates the task of drawing up the National Plan for Dependent People to the network (the coordinating body of the intervention and social services system). The National Observatory on the Condition of Disabled People has produced a two-year action programme to promote the rights and integration of disabled people, which was published in the Official Gazette on 12 December 2017. Finally, the 2018 Budget Law set up a fund for family carers amounting to €60 million (€20 million per year from 2018 to 2020). Three draft laws were also presented regarding recognition of the role of non-professional carers.

Also, of particular importance for the 2030 Agenda is the Ministry of Health’s establishment, in January 2018, of a national task force regarding support for environmental policies in accordance with the “health in all policies” model, boosting epidemiological surveillance, preventive assessment of the health impacts of pollutants, and training health and environmental workers. The establishment of the task force is undoubtedly the most important recent government action relating to implementation of the SDGs, especially Goal 3, and was specifically mentioned together with the European Health 2020 strategy

and the outcomes of the Conference on Environment and Health in Ostrava (2017) on presentation of the initiative.

Regarding other interventions that may have strategic value in relation to health and wellbeing issues, the “Italy for health equity” project, promoted by the former Minister, Beatrice Lorenzin, in collaboration with the Institute for Medicine, Migration and Poverty, the National Regional Health Services Agency, the Italian Medicines Agency and the National Institute of Health, with which they were carried out, should be borne in mind: (a) a detailed analysis of health inequalities and their causes; b) an initial definition of strategies to increase equity, both in the system and regarding specific targets and areas. Finally, it should be noted that the Italian Centre for Global Health has been set up at the National Institute of Health, with the aim of actively intervening regarding the difficulties and risks of globalisation in the field of healthcare.

GOAL 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The rate of early school leaving - despite a slight improvement and achievement of the national target - is still at 14%, compared to the Europe 2020 target of 10%, while for higher education Italy is second to last in Europe in terms of the number of university graduates (only Romania is worse), amounting to 16.3% (compared to 15.7% in 2016) among people aged 15-64 and 26.2% for the 30-34 age bracket (compared to the Europe 2020 target of 40%, which has now been achieved by almost all countries). In comparison with Europe as a whole, Italy’s level of expenditure on education as a share of GDP is still inadequate (4% compared to the European average of 4.9%). In terms of share of public expenditure, Italy fell from 9.1% in 2008 to 7.9% in 2015, compared to 9.6% in Germany and France, and 9.3% in Spain. Specifically, in terms of scholarships, in Italy 9.4% of the student population are beneficiaries, compared to 39.2% in France, 30% in Spain and 25% in Germany.

Highs and lows continue to characterise the entire Italian education system, which was encapsulated in July by the almost joint release of the annual report on INVALSI tests, aimed at schools, and the

new biennial report edited by the National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR).

Once again this year, the INVALSI tests reveal wide regional differences in students' learning (as well as for English, Italian and mathematics for young people in southern Italy). In higher education, the good news from ANVUR is that there has been a reduction in drop-outs - especially on the cusp between the first and the second year - and a parallel increase in the probability of graduation for those enrolled at university. Less positive, however, is the observation that in the academic year 2017-18, after a few years of recovery, the total number of enrolments has stalled, standing as in the previous year at 290,000, a level corresponding to around half of nineteen-year-old residents.

Also worth mentioning are the results of the 2016 survey, "Progress in International Reading Literacy Study" (PIRLS) of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), regarding the reading skills of boys and girls aged 9 and 10 (attending fourth-grade classes), which were published in December 2017. Indeed, a certain excellence was confirmed on the part of Italian primary schools, which do much better than the average of the participating countries, and especially Germany, France and Spain.

After the measures adopted in previous years (including Law 107/2015, the so-called "Good School" law), perhaps the most significant educational event is the conclusion of the first three-year work experience schemes, which have been made mandatory for all high school students. Without official monitoring of these first experiences, it is almost impossible to judge the overall outcomes. However, in addition to the usefulness of the initiative per se, at the same time attention should be paid to the critical points and the still imprecise framework for the experience, which requires corrective measures, including greater consistency between school guidelines and the pathways offered by the host organisations, avoidance of inappropriate behaviour on the part of employers, and encouragement of a real rapprochement with the world of work for students. Trials of the "Dual System" promoted by the Ministry of Labour have also been completed, leading to a resumption of apprenticeship training and increased hiring, especially in areas where more investment has been made in the quality of

education and vocational training. Here, too, higher quality in training projects must be aimed for.

The 2018 Budget Law confirmed the "Fund for initiatives to combat child educational poverty" aimed at removing the financial, social and cultural obstacles that prevent children from benefiting from education. To this end, three calls for proposals have been published for third sector organisations and schools: early childhood (0-6 years), adolescence (11-17 years) and new generations (5-14 years).

Compared with new provisions in various areas - school construction, textbooks, tax credits, etc. - the steady decline in the Fund for the Improvement of Educational Provision should be noted, which has been reduced by around one third from 2013 to the present day.

In the field of education, too, the quantity and quality of educational provision continue to be marked by regional disparities. In order to make efforts to combat child educational poverty structural, it is recommended to continue along the path mapped out by the 2018 Budget Law which, in order to implement specific interventions on the ground, has provided for ISTAT to define parameters and indicators to identify the priority areas of intervention, based on periodic surveys and integrated use of administrative sources.

Regarding higher education, the resources of the State Supplementary Fund for granting university scholarships have been increased, but this continues to be insufficient in a country where one out of two 19-year-olds doesn't even try to set foot in a university classroom.

With regard to the theme of disseminating education for sustainability and global citizenship, in addition to the initiatives described on page 34, with the support of ASviS, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research has defined an Education for Sustainability Plan in line with the 2030 Agenda Goals, which is broken down into 20 concrete actions, grouped into four macro-areas: buildings and construction; teaching and teacher training; universities and research; and information and communication. Contacts have been established with the new government to continue the work started, and it is also hoped to continue ASviS's collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research in holding the competition, "Let's score 17 Goals. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for sustainable devel-

opment”, which has proved to be an effective catalyst for education for sustainable development and global citizenship initiatives in a partnership between the world of education and civil society.

Finally, on 28 February 2018, the Italian Strategy for Education for Global Citizenship was approved by the National Council for Development Cooperation (CNCS), which is the outcome of networking between institutions, civil society and universities, and has already been turned into operational guidelines by some regions.

GOAL 5 - GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Combating gender inequality is vital for the achievement of effective sustainable development and all the SDGs, and is a Goal that cuts across all the others. The role of women of all ages is fundamental in building fairer and more inclusive societies, as well as stable and lasting economic growth.

The ISTAT Report on the SDGs highlights some critical aspects of the state of Italy with respect to the Goal 5 targets. Against a backdrop of overall reduction in crime, the number of women subjected to physical or sexual violence has also declined, but the proportion of women who are victims of extreme violence (rape and attempted rape), or brutal forms of violence, has remained stable. The gender gap for unpaid domestic and care work is still wide, although it is narrowing compared to the two-year period 2002-2003. Positive signs have also emerged regarding the participation of women in economic and political decision-making arenas, but their presence is still low.

An initial aspect to highlight in this regard is the result of the elections of 4 March 2018, which saw the first application of the gender quota regulations contained in Law 165 of 3 November 2017: women now constitute around 35% of parliamentarians. While half of the 9,529 candidates in the elections were women, a total of 334 women were elected, including 225 in the Chamber (compared to 405 men) and 109 (205 men) in the Senate, which saw a female president elected for the first time. In seven regions (Trentino-Alto Adige, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Umbria, Lazio, Campania, Sicily and Calabria) women accounted for more than

40% of the elected representatives. Despite the increase in the number of female parliamentarians, women's presence in the chairmanship of committees and monitoring committees remains low.

Over the last twelve months, many regulatory and administrative measures have been undertaken in these areas:

- **gender medicine** (art. 3, Law 3/2018): for the first time in Italy, a gender-oriented medicine is guaranteed in all its applications. The implementation plan is awaited, to be prepared by the Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the National Institute of Health;
- **social and health assistance for women victims of violence**: with the Prime Ministerial Decree of 24 December 2017, the national guidelines for health authorities and hospital authorities were approved;
- **reduced social security contributions for the employment of women victims of gender-based violence**. The Decree of 11 May 2018 by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies established that, for 2018, 2019 and 2020, social cooperatives hiring women victims of gender-based violence included in care programmes, on permanent contracts, are exempt from payment of social security contributions, within the limit of €1 million set by the Italian Social Insurance Agency (INPS) for each year;
- **provisions for children orphaned as a result of domestic crimes**. Law 4 of 11 January 2018 provides access to free legal aid, free medical and psychological assistance, allocation of public housing, and the right to change their surname via a simplified procedure for such orphans, to whom the fund for victims of mafia, usury and violent intentional crimes is also extended, with an increase of €2 million per year, earmarked for scholarships and the funding of counselling, training and support projects for their integration within the labour market;
- **compulsory paternity leave** was extended to four days on full pay by the 2018 Budget Law, plus one optional day instead of a day of compulsory leave for the mother;
- **suspension of the maximum duration of fixed-term contracts during the period of compulsory maternity leave**, with the 2018 Budget Law, extended to researchers on fixed-term contracts;

- **a maternity allowance for non-professional athletes** was established thanks to the fund of €2 million provided for by the 2018 Budget Law. **The maternity allowance has been extended to workers registered with the separate social security scheme** of the Italian Social Insurance Agency (INPS) and is guaranteed even in the event of non-payment of contributions by the employer;
- **baby-sitting vouchers, baby bonuses, kindergarten bonuses and maternity bonuses** have been confirmed thanks to the resources provided for by the 2018 Budget Law. In addition, for children under 24 years of age, the total income limit for being considered as dependent for tax purposes has been raised to €4,000;
- **work-life balance measures** and incentives for company-specific bargaining (€110 million) are provided for companies that adopt measures to help employees achieve a work-life balance.

In order to combat **gender-based violence**, the 2018 Budget Law has amended art. 26 of Legislative Decree 198/2006 (equal opportunities between men and women) by introducing a rule that protects women who report having been sexually harassed in the workplace. As a result, retaliatory or discriminatory dismissal is null and void, although sanctions are still lacking for employers who do not guarantee workers' physical and moral integrity. Moreover, Law 172 of 4 December 2017, which converts and amends Legislative Decree 148 of 16 October 2017, provides that the crime of stalking may no longer be cancelled out by paying the victim a sum of money. Finally, the three-month leave provision for victims of gender-based violence has been extended to domestic workers, domestic helpers and carers.

As already mentioned in previous reports, it is often the case that legislation regarding women's rights is not fully implemented¹⁰. In this regard, it should be noted that the Constitutional Court is examining the implementation of Law 76 of 20 May 2016, "Regulation of civil unions between persons of the same sex and of cohabitation". Moreover, the possibility of choosing the surnames of the contracting parties in the civil union introduced with this law, makes it even more regrettable that the law implementing Constitutional Court ruling 368/2016 regarding dual surnames was not approved during the last legislature.

The Ministerial Decree of 3 May 2018 issued by the Ministry of Labour, which will facilitate compilation by companies of the two-yearly report on the situation of male and female staff, and will enable the subsequent procedure to be carried out by the company's labour union representatives and the regional equality councillor, who must forward the results to the national equality councillor at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies and the Department of Equal Opportunities within the Cabinet Office, is to be welcomed.

GOAL 6 - CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

As pointed out in ISTAT's SDG Report, Italy has the highest per capita abstraction of water for drinking purposes among the 28 countries of the European Union and the indicator for the efficiency of the distribution network is worsening. 10.1% of the Italian population complains about irregularities and poor functioning of the water service in their homes, and the percentage of households that do not trust their tap water for drinking purposes (29.1%) is still very high, albeit down four points compared with 2010.

During the last legislature, the approval process for the draft law (see 17th Legislature, Senate Bill 2343), "Principles for the protection, regulation and public management of water", was not completed. This is vital for bringing national policies into line with several of the Goal 6 targets and to recognise the principle that water is a "natural asset that is a universal human right", as ratified by the General Assembly of the United Nations A/64/L.63/Rev. 1 of 26 July 2010.

The need for a law regulating the public management of water was discussed by the President of the Chamber of Deputies, Roberto Fico, at a meeting held on 30 July 2018 with the Forum for Water Associations. The President reaffirmed his commitment to the matter and stated that the outcome of the 2011 referendum can only be respected via forms of management such as publicly owned entities, special companies and special consortia. It should also be recalled that the coalition agreement entered into by the two partners states that "it is necessary to invest in the public integrated water service by applying the popular

will expressed in the 2011 referendum, with particular reference to restructuring the water network, ensuring the quality of water, and the needs and health of all citizens, including through establishment of local service companies for public water management. The most useful initiative would be to give citizens a water infrastructure network that is worthy of such a name. Therefore, it is necessary to renovate the water network where required, remove asbestos and lead from pipes, and reduce leaks to a minimum in order to ensure clean, good-quality water in all Italian municipalities”.

As already pointed out in last year’s report, priority criteria should be introduced for water use, by putting human use at the forefront and introducing the concept of arrearage forgiveness, and setting the minimum amount for meeting essential needs at 50 litres per day, which should also be guaranteed to people with limited means in the event of non-payment, thus enabling achievement of Target 6.1 regarding the right to universal access to water. The draft law also introduced rules for participatory management of the integrated water service which responds to Target 6.b, and an international solidarity fund financed at a rate of 1 euro cent for every cubic metre of water supplied, which meets to the aims of Target 6.a. It is hoped that, when the legislative process is resumed, these points will be proposed again and that the provisions of the coalition agreement will be implemented as early as 2019.

It should also be noted that the laborious implementation of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC has led to two infringement proceedings against Italy. Delays in bringing more than 100 urban centres or areas without wastewater networks or systems up to standard led to an initial adverse finding in 2012, with a resulting fine. In May 2018, the decision was confirmed and a fine of €25 million was imposed, to which €30 million will be added for every six months of further delay, as the number of non-compliant built-up areas, although reduced from 109 to 74, still seriously lags behind EU regulations.

It should also be recalled that one of the priorities - also highlighted by Target 6.4 - is to improve the efficiency of water systems, by repairing the many leaks in our water mains. The 12th ISPRA “Quality of the urban environment” Report for 2017 recalls that on average in Italy 38.2% of the

water injected into the network does not reach users (with peaks of 60% in the provinces of Latina, Frosinone, Vibo Valentia, Potenza and Campobasso). It is no coincidence that the Budget Law has allocated €250 million until 2022 (€50 million for each year) for actions relating to: “water, water networks and reservoirs”.

With regard to hydrogeological instability, in Law Decree 97 of 9 August 2018 the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection (MATTM) took on responsibility for directing and managing hydrogeological risk funds. Also, in the light of the recurring disasters that affect much of Italian territory as a result of hydrogeological instability, it is necessary to strengthen coordination and the allocation of funds to curb and combat a phenomenon that also jeopardises access to water services.

GOAL 7 - AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Final energy consumption, which fell by 0.5% in 2016, rose again in 2017 to 123.8 MTOE (up 1.3%). End-use efficiency in Italy in 2017 was 107.6 TOE per €m, down 0.2% on 2016, the year in which a record fall of 1.8% was registered compared to 2015. At the same time, the proportion of electricity produced from renewable sources fell from 37.4% in 2014 to 33.1% in 2016.

The last legislature bequeathed to the incumbent government the management and continuation of the National Energy Strategy (SEN), approved on 10 November 2017, and the National Industry Plan 4.0. The parties currently in government have made commitments on energy issues, but these have not been the subject of any specific debate, either during or after the election campaign. At the moment, no requests or initiatives have been put forward to modify the current SEN, which is still based on gas, one of the fossil energy sources responsible for climate-changing emissions, as the main “transition” fuel.

The historical and programmatic framework for renewable energies is very challenging for the system, with clear benefits for industry and in terms of employment. With the arrival of the first draft of the decree on Renewable Energy Sources for the period 2018-2020 issued by the

Ministry for Economic Development, the feed-in tariffs for photovoltaic power for capacities in excess of 20 kW have returned. However, the pace of growth between 2016 and 2017 is totally inadequate. Indeed, the addition of 425 MW of installed capacity in 12 months for photovoltaic power and of 350 MW for onshore wind power would leave Italy well short of the targets for 2030 agreed at EU level. And this when the potential is even greater. According to Bloomberg ("New Energy Outlook", 2018), by 2030 wind and solar power sources will be able to guarantee 90% of Italy's demand - which is better than Europe at 87% - a percentage that will rise to 100% by 2050.

Energy efficiency, the second Goal 7 target, will see the introduction of two new regulatory mechanisms in 2018 that will optimise tax breaks, ranging from 50 to 65%, as well as the market for white certificates, which increased by 5% and rose from €250 to €350 in 2017. In addition, Gestore dei Servizi Energetici (GSE) has been given greater powers in this field.

The SEN target is to achieve 30% energy savings on the consumption trend by 2030, compared with the new EU target of 32.5% agreed this year. Forecast additional energy efficiency investment over the whole period amounts to €110 billion, which is expected to lead to a reduction in final energy consumption of around 10 MTOE per year by 2030, namely around 1 MTOE of annual savings as a result of new initiatives. Total investment in 2017 was €6.7 billion, up 10% on 2016 and 80% on 2012.

GOAL 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Last year's legislative initiatives must be viewed in the specific context of the Italian situation, which is marked by delays and discrepancies in comparison with most other European countries. ISTAT's SDG Report notes that, although employment has risen slightly in the last four years, the unemployment rate in 2017 is still almost double that of the pre-crisis level, standing at 11.2%, compared with the European average of 7.6%. Since 2013, unemployment in Italy has fallen by one percentage point, and in Europe by 3.3 points. Unlike most European countries, even per capita GDP, after a slight recovery in the three-year period 2015-2017, is still well below its pre-crisis level. It should also be noted that, in Italy, non-participation in the labour market is almost twice as high as in Europe as a whole. Finally, while the number of people in employment has recovered, returning to the pre-crisis level, the same may not be said for the number of hours worked, which is still 5% lower than the levels of 2008. This reflects the fact that some of the new jobs are fragmented, and also precarious, as evidenced by the rise in fixed-term contracts.

The many significant measures undertaken in favour of growth, productivity and the labour

Required contribution from renewable energy sources in order to meet SEN objectives for 2030

RES	2016		2017 (estimate for first 11 months)	2030		GW per year 2018-2030
	Installed capacity (GW)	Production (TWh)	Installed capacity (GW)	Installed capacity (GW)	Production (TWh)	
Photovoltaic	19,28	22,1	19,67	59	69	3,03
CSP	0	0	0	0,9	3	0,07
Onshore wind	9,41	17,69	9,73	17	38	0,56
Offshore wind	0	0	0	0,85	2,5	0,07
Geothermal	0,81	6,29	0,81	0,9	7	0,01
Hydroelectric	18,64	42,43	18,71	18,4	50	-0,02
Bioenergy	4,12	19,51	4,12	3,2	15	-0,07
TOTAL	52,27	108,02	53,04	100,25	184,5	3,63

market should be seen against this backdrop. It should also be noted that not all issues relating to the Goal 8 targets have been the subject of the most recent legislature. For example, the protection of decent work (Target 8.5), combating child labour (Target 8.7), and the protection of migrant workers' rights (Target 8.8) have not received adequate responses.

Noteworthy among the measures aimed at stimulating productivity are the incentives provided for by the 2018 Budget Law regarding the purchase of capital goods and technological and digital transformation processes in companies, including the extension of super depreciation and hyper depreciation - the "New Sabatini" measure - the Intangible Capital Fund, and the establishment of highly specialised skills centres. In this context, the introduction of the tax credit for training 4.0 expenses and the strengthening of technical colleges should be highlighted, although the financial resources available for the latter were deemed insufficient. Also important is the Special Plan for "Made in Italy", aimed at promoting exports and foreign investment, and highlighting the need to also involve small businesses.

In terms of young people, incentives designed to boost the hiring of young people, as provided for in the 2018 Budget Law and the ANPAL- Ministry of Education, Universities and Research memorandum of understanding, aim to strengthen work experience schemes.

In August 2018, the so-called "Dignity Decree" (Law Decree 87/2018 converted into Law 96/2018 on 9 August 2018) was finally approved. This contains some amendments to the previous legislation (the so-called "Jobs Act") on employment. In particular, significant restrictions on the use of fixed-term contracts have been introduced. Their duration is reduced from 36 to 24 months, the need to provide a "reason" for contracts longer than 12 months has been reintroduced, the number of possible extensions has been limited (from 5 to 4), and the contribution rate (0.5%) to be paid by the employer is raised each time the contract is renewed. In the event of wrongful dismissal, whilst reinstatement is not provided for, the compensation due from the employer to the employee has been raised by 50% and the period of compensation increased from 4-24 months to 6-36 months.

As regards measures to promote entrepreneurship, the refinancing of the SME Guarantee Fund

and the Sustainable Growth Fund was welcome, although problems have been reported in accessing the latter. It was also suggested that it might be advisable to introduce circular economy elements into these programmes. Regarding the promotion of entrepreneurship in the tourism sector, the "Strategic Plan for Tourism", which aims to strengthen the sustainable dimension of tourism, is worthy of note. The measures provided for in the 2018 Budget Law aimed at supporting arduous jobs, improving social security and welfare conditions (early retirement for social reasons or voluntary early retirement), and protecting household consumption (extension of the supplementary redundancy fund for workers involved in corporate restructurings or companies in crisis and those in areas affected by widespread crises), are also positive. The amendment that supplements the regulations on extracurricular internships decided upon by the Conference of central and regional government authorities in May 2017 is also welcome, while the jury remains out on the "Dignity Decree" (Law Decree of 12 July 2018), pending verification of its effects on labour market trends, with reference to the amendments made to fixed-term contracts (which affect Targets 8.3 and 8.5).

Regarding measures to redress regional imbalances, the measures adopted to promote economic development and entrepreneurship in southern Italy, namely the Southern Italy Enterprise Fund provided for in the 2018 Budget Law and the "Southern Italy Decree" of June 2017, should be borne in mind.

With regard to the objective of decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation (Target 8.4), the debate fostered by the publication of the "Catalogue of harmful and environmentally friendly subsidies" in 2017, should be noted. In this context, it is worth mentioning various initiatives by deputies and senators, especially in the amendment phase of the 2018 Budget Law, which, starting from the indications set out in the Catalogue, have put forward specific proposals regarding the reduction of EHS (Environmentally Harmful Subsidies) in favour of EFS (Environmentally Friendly Subsidies).

Finally, the commitment already made by the Gentiloni government in 2017 and included in the Economic and Financial Planning Document for 2018 regarding the revival of public investment

(whose “dramatic decline” from 3 to 2% of GDP - said the current Minister of the Economy and Finance, Giovanni Tria, on 18 July 2018 - “must be fought with determination”), should be seen as an essential tool for relaunching good growth and an industrial policy that takes on responsibility for guiding towards sustainable production and consumption.

GOAL 9 - INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

According to ISTAT’s SDG Report, R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP has increased by only 0.3 percentage points in the last ten years, so the deviation from the EU average is still significant. The number of companies introducing technological innovations has decreased in the last three years, and the report highlights the “structural backwardness of the Italian R&D system”. Southern Italy has half as many researchers as the central and northern regions, whereas the importance of knowledge workers is growing (people with a university education working in technical and scientific professions), with a share that rose from 11% to 17% between 2004 and 2017.

The measures launched regarding digitisation of the public sector, the “National Ultra-Broadband Strategic Plan”, the “Italian Strategy for Digital Growth”, the new Digital Administration Code and the “Three-Year Plan for Public Administration Information Technology” certainly represent progress, but much still needs to be done for Italy’s digital innovation. The progress made over the last year relating to access by businesses and individuals to communication and information technologies is still insufficient, given that only 26% of the population is reached by a bandwidth ≥ 30 Mb. Italy is becoming increasingly digital, but the progress made is not enough to keep pace with the world leaders in the field and reduce the existing gap.

Regarding infrastructure, the annex to the Economic and Financial Planning Document for 2018, “Connecting Italy: the state of implementation of programmes for transport and logistics infrastructure”, describes the strategic frameworks, works

and investments that have been put in place in recent years, in accordance with a plan that extends until 2030, which is in line with the path already embarked upon with the “Connecting Italy” strategy and the infrastructure annexes to the Economic and Financial Planning Documents for 2016 and 2017.

The 2018 annex presents the progress made, the results achieved and the initiatives undertaken in the various sectors, ranging from reforms deriving from the Public Procurement Code to plans for logistics, ports and public transport. The overall list of priority works and programmes is presented, with a precise update for the initiatives already identified in the previous annex.

The last two Budget Laws financed the “Infrastructure Fund” (€47 billion from 2017 to 2032, and €36 billion from 2018 to 2033), and local authorities have access to ample funds as a result of cancellation of the Internal Stability Pact (in operation for two years, but hardly used by regional and municipal authorities). However, the overall performance in terms of public investment has been disappointing. Total expenditure in 2017 amounted to €33.7 billion, marking reductions of €2 billion (down 5.6%) compared with 2016, and €5.6 billion (down 9.6%) compared with 2015. The forecasts, albeit “with unchanged policies”, show signs of a limited recovery, including expenditure by regional and municipal authorities, partly thanks to the setting up - at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport - of the “Local Authority Planning Fund” (€30 million per year for the period 2018-2030), allocated for the co-financing of works to secure buildings and public facilities.

The relaunch of infrastructure investment also remains a challenge for the new government. According to the new Minister of the Economy and Finance, Giovanni Tria (at the hearing of 3 July 2018 before the joint Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate), specific task forces will be set up to deal with three priority areas: welfare, taxation and public investment. Regarding the latter, Tria explained that the government will provide support as part of a review of the budget to ensure that it is more conducive to growth and inclusion.

GOAL 10 - REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and among countries

The Italian economy has emerged from the most acute phase of the crisis which, in recent years, has accentuated inequalities and exacerbated poverty, especially among young people and the less well-off sectors of the population. The ratio of equivalent disposable income received by the 20% of the population with the highest income (the richest quintile) to that of the 20% of the population with the lowest income (the poorest quintile) rose from 5.2 in 2007 to 6.3 in 2016, and ISTAT foresees a further increase to 6.4 in 2017. Some regions have experienced sharp growth in income inequalities in recent years: Sicily, Calabria, Campania and Sardinia, but also Lazio, Liguria and Lombardy.

ISTAT's SDG Report also indicates that, while in Italy growth in the incomes of people with relatively low incomes was higher than that of total income until 2007, since 2008 the trend has reversed and, despite the beginnings of an economic recovery in the last three years, the negative effect on lower incomes does not appear to have worn off. As a result, the share of households living in absolute poverty has almost doubled in the last ten years (6.9% in 2017), reaching the highest level in southern Italy (10.3%).

As regards the inequality of private wealth, in Italy the share of personal net wealth held by the richest percentile of the population (top 1%) rose from around 16% in 1995 to over 25% in 2014¹¹. Over the same period, the concentration of wealth of the country's 5,000 richest people rose from 2% to around 10%. This share is now twice as high as that of half of the poorest population.

In the face of such a large increase in inequalities, there is still no convergence of policies aimed at reducing them. In addition to the urgent need to extend and strengthen specific income support measures to eradicate absolute poverty, these steps should be taken: a tax system based on a more progressive approach and greater fairness; measures to reduce income disparities within the same workplace; protection of the universal and public nature of welfare systems; measures aimed at eradicating the most unacceptable situations of privilege.

As already described on page 41, since December 2017, via a structural and national reform of social

policies, Italy has been trialling an instrument to combat poverty called Inclusion Income (Rel), which evolved from two previous instruments introduced in 2014-2015. In March 2018, a total of approximately 230,000 households, corresponding to almost 800,000 people, namely around 50% of the potential target, were beneficiaries of Rel or SIA.

The decree that introduced Rel also established the Social Protection and Inclusion Network, chaired by the Minister of Labour and Social Policies and comprising representatives of regional and municipal authorities. The protection network's task is to promote greater regional homogeneity in the provision of services, and to define guidelines for action.

The 2018 Budget Law confirmed the structural measures aimed at supporting families (payment by INPS of an €800 bonus on the birth or adoption of a child; a €1,000 voucher for payment of fees relating to attendance of public and private nurseries by children born on or after 1 January 2016; measures to facilitate access to credit for families with one or more children born or adopted from 1 January 2017). The Budget Law also provides for a tax credit of 65% for banking foundations that promote community welfare through interventions and measures to combat poverty, social fragility and youth deprivation, child protection, care and assistance for the elderly and the disabled, social and labour inclusion and the integration of immigrants, as well as the supply of equipment for health care.

While inequalities cut across all dimensions of social life (distribution of income and wealth, access to and quality of basic services, gender issues, educational and training opportunities, etc.), wide gaps also exist between towns and large cities, suburbs and city centres, and urban and rural areas. In this context, the last twelve months have seen the development of the National Strategy for Internal Areas (SNAI), aimed at reducing inequalities in accessing basic services. This measure has now been extended to 72 areas far from large service centres, covering one fifth of Italy's territory, with around two million inhabitants.

In 2017, seven internal areas started the implementation phase of the area strategy, with the signing of the Framework Planning Agreement. Eight other areas have reached the final stage of

the process and are currently working on the development and fine-tuning of the Framework Planning Agreement. The 2018 Budget Law also allocated €50 million for the construction of school buildings in internal areas, a contribution towards addressing the critical issues that these areas have to deal with in an isolated and fragmented way.

Also, in many Italian cities - with the stepping up of implementation of measures under the Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 in 2018, and the decisive contribution made by third sector organisations in favour of suburbs and the most vulnerable sections of the population - changes are being made to urban policies as a result of the influence of the European Agenda in terms of place-based approaches and tools to innovate public action. Noteworthy in this context is the freezing - hopefully temporary - of the “suburban calls for tender” provided for in the so-called “Thousand Extensions Decree”, approved by the Senate at first reading on 7 August 2018. This has halted work on agreements regarding the financing of initiatives in 96 municipalities aimed at the regeneration of suburbs, whose disastrous condition requires ongoing financial commitments and clear procedures.

GOAL 11 - SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

ISTAT's SDG Report registers contrasting trends for Italy regarding Goal 11. While the housing situation has improved slightly, satisfaction with public transport use has declined. In addition, illegal building is on the rise, while public spending per capita on the protection of biodiversity and landscape assets is decreasing. Positive data include the downtrend in the level of air pollution, and the constant decrease in the share of municipal waste sent to landfill, which is still 24.7% of the total amount.

On 19 December 2017, the Commission of Inquiry set up by the Chamber of Deputies to look into the state of degradation and safety of cities and their suburbs unanimously approved its final report. It contains several proposals, which add up to an important signpost for the 18th Legislature that has just begun:

- establishment of a two-chamber commission on cities and suburbs;
- identification of a reference point for central government, tasked with coordinating policies for cities and defining the National Urban Agenda, including through reactivation of the Interministerial Committee for Urban Policies (CIPU);
- the creation of a long-term strategic plan (6-10 years) for Italian cities along the lines of the earlier suburban calls for tender, identifying the target areas and an ongoing financing mechanism;
- the creation of an urban regeneration strategy, not only regarding the physical part of cities, but also serving as a social inclusion and economic development project;
- approval of a new national law setting out local planning guidelines;
- the creation of a new national programme for public housing and a new framework law for housing associations;
- strengthening the Metropolitan Committee already provided for in Law 48 of 2007 to define specific safety agreements;
- establishment of neighbourhood social agencies.

Law 2 of 2018, regarding promotion of the use of bicycles as a means of transport, has been approved. The 2018 Budget Law also provided for possible allocation of up to €100 million of the resources already available from the fund for renewal of the regional and local public transport fleet (established at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport for each year during the period 2019-2033) for experimental and innovative sustainable mobility projects.

Moreover, the 2017 Budget Law provided for the preparation of a “National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Mobility”, which has not yet been drawn up, while the “Sustainable Mobility Round Table”, established on the initiative of the Cabinet Office, published a final document containing several recommendations in May 2017.

To overcome the smog emergency, especially in the critical area of the Po Valley, a new planning agreement was signed on 9 June 2017 between the Ministry of the Environment and regional authorities in the Po Basin. The issue of air pollution was also the subject of a draft law, which has been examined but not yet approved by the Senate (Senate Bill 2277). Finally, it should be

noted that the 17th Legislature ended without the final approval of Senate Draft Law 2383, “Reduction of land consumption and reuse of developed land”.

GOAL 12 - RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Positive developments regarding many aspects relating to Goal 12 are described in ISTAT’s SDG Report, which shows that in recent years Italy has seen significant growth in both separate waste collection and recycling (with a share rising from 36.7% in 2010 to 47.7% in 2016). Between 2004 and 2016, the percentage of separate collection rose by more than 30 points, from 22.7% to 52.5%. Consumption of materials has also fallen sharply (by around 40% from 1996 to 2014), although a reversal of the trend from 2014 should be noted, following an upturn in industrial production.

Following the launch of the National Bioeconomy Strategy (4/2017), the Report on Natural Capital (2/2017) and the Reform of the Third Sector (mid-2017), after which certain legislative decrees were issued (the Code governing the third sector, social enterprise and the income tax contribution for charitable organisations), several regulatory changes were made that help to guide sustainable production and consumption models:

- Law 123/2017 regarding biodegradable packaging for bulk foodstuffs (12/2017);
- the Competition Law, which sets 1 July 2019 as the date for the switchover to the free energy and gas market, and establishes the regulations regarding the soft transition from the protected market;
- the extension of the regulatory powers of the Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and the Environment (ARERA) to the entire environmental sector;
- the first regulation by the Transport Authority of the minimum quality standards for rail transport services subject to public service obligations;
- the regulation of the compulsory indication on labels of the registered office and address of the production or, if different, the packaging

plant, pursuant to Article 5 of Law 170 of 12 August 2016 - Legislative Decree 145 of 15 September 2017;

- Legislative Decree 50/2017 (Procurement Code), as amended by Legislative Decree 56/2017, regarding Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC), which makes the environmental objectives set out in the environmental sustainability action plan for the public sector mandatory.

Also worth mentioning is the draft law, “Measures to combat the financing of companies manufacturing anti-personnel mines, munitions and cluster sub-munitions” (Senate Bill 57), which prohibits financial institutions - specifically, financial and credit intermediaries, foundations and pension funds - from financing companies which, directly or via subsidiaries or affiliates, are involved in the production chain of cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines. Approved by the Chamber of Deputies on 3 October 2017, the bill was sent back to the upper and lower houses by the President of the Republic, Sergio Mattarella, due to “elements of constitutional illegitimacy”.

Regarding **responsible finance** matters, these measures should be noted:

- the CONSOB Regulation (January 2018) implementing Legislative Decree 254/2016, which governs the publication, audit and oversight of non-financial statements¹²;
- the update of the Corporate Governance Code for companies listed on the Italian Stock Exchange (July 2018)¹³ which invites issuers to adopt diversity criteria, including gender diversity, in the composition of corporate governance bodies, as of the first renewal following cessation of the effects of Law 120/2011 (the so-called Golfo-Mosca Law). From now on, gender policy regarding the composition of corporate bodies must be presented in the report on corporate governance.

Moreover, the document, “Towards a circular economy model for Italy”, was published in November 2017. It was drafted jointly by the Ministry of the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea and the Ministry of Economic Development, with the aim of providing a general framework for the circular economy, as well as defining strategic positioning relating to this matter. The Circular Economy Atlas, a web plat-

form for gathering circular economy experiences in Italy, was also established:

<http://www.economiacircolare.com/latlante>.

Alongside these changes in national legislation, important innovations that have an impact on Italy have occurred on the European front, including the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform; the European Parliament Resolution of 18 April 2018 regarding packaging and packaging waste; a proposal for a Regulation regarding information on sustainable investments and risks for sustainability; the European Parlia-

ment Resolution regarding sustainable finance (29 May 2018); and the agreement on the texts of the new regulations regarding waste and the circular economy prepared by representatives of the Commission, the Council and the Parliament's rapporteur (17/18 December 2017). Also important is the Circular Economy Package, which came into force on 4 July 2018 and must be implemented by member states by 5 July 2020 (see page 22).

The critical points include:

- the failure to adopt the framework law on fair trade, which has been long awaited by all associations, the third sector, and fair-trade organisations;
- the huge delay (26 months) in issuing the implementing decrees of the Enabling Act regarding the third sector. As of 3 August 2018, of the 26 acts envisaged relating to the "Third Sector Code", only five had been adopted and seven were in the process of being drawn up; regarding "Universal Community Service", none of the four acts envisaged had been adopted or drawn up; regarding social enterprise, of the 12 acts envisaged, only three had been adopted and one was in the process of being drawn up. Also regarding the income tax contribution for charitable organisations, the necessary Prime Ministerial Decree is awaited regarding the criteria for the distribution procedures relating to unexpressed choices concerning the minimum amount payable, etc.. The deadline for adoption of the corrective and supplementary decree to the Third Sector Code expired on 2 August 2018 and the government only issued it on the last day, so on 19 July 2018 the Senate approved a regulation extending the deadline by four months;
- the failure to issue an implementing decree for the regulation (20 months after its approval) which, by amending the Consolidated Banking Act, recognises the role of ethical and sustainable finance, establishing its principles and aims and providing specific forms of facilitation and support for banks who comply with its criteria.

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

According to many observers, sustainable finance is, to some extent, recognised in Italy by art. 45 of the Constitution, which recognises the social function of mutual cooperation (including banking) without any private speculation purposes. Then the Reform of the Third Sector introduced the expression "social finance", providing tax breaks for financial instruments such as social bonds, social lending and solidarity securities.

In January 2018, a decree of the Ministry of the Environment "formalised" the Italian Observatory for Sustainable Finance, which, divided into working groups, is tasked with: promoting the sustainable financial activities of Italian financial centres in connection with international financial centres; encouraging the role of green finance in supporting sustainable reindustrialisation; incorporating international developments relating to green and sustainable finance within the national dimension; assessing the potential for mobilising private capital for sustainable development.

More recently, the Ministry of the Economy conducted an online consultation, as part of the transposition of EU Directive 2016/2341 regarding the activities and supervision of company and professional retirement schemes. The regulation requires European pension funds to report on how ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) issues are incorporated within financial management and investment risk assessments.

GOAL 13 - CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Between 1995 and 2015, greenhouse gas emissions fell by almost 20 percentage points. This is an important figure, as Italy, with a value of 7.3 tonnes per capita, ranks below the European average of 8.8 tonnes per capita for greenhouse gas emissions. However, it should be noted that the economic crisis had a significant impact on this result, as 75% of emissions are attributable to production activities (30.1% to the manufacturing sector, 28.3% to energy production, 14% to the transport sector), so although progress has been made, much still needs to be done.

2017 was marked by a 2% increase in global greenhouse gas emissions. This result comes after a few years of stagnation due to the slowdown in production linked to the global economic crisis. Unfortunately, the increase in 2017 highlights the need for even stronger action to combat climate change.

In Italy, since 2010, “natural” phenomena have had significant impacts (disruption, damage to infrastructure, victims) on 198 municipalities, which have experienced 340 extreme weather events. 109 cases of damage to infrastructure caused by heavy rainfall have been reported.

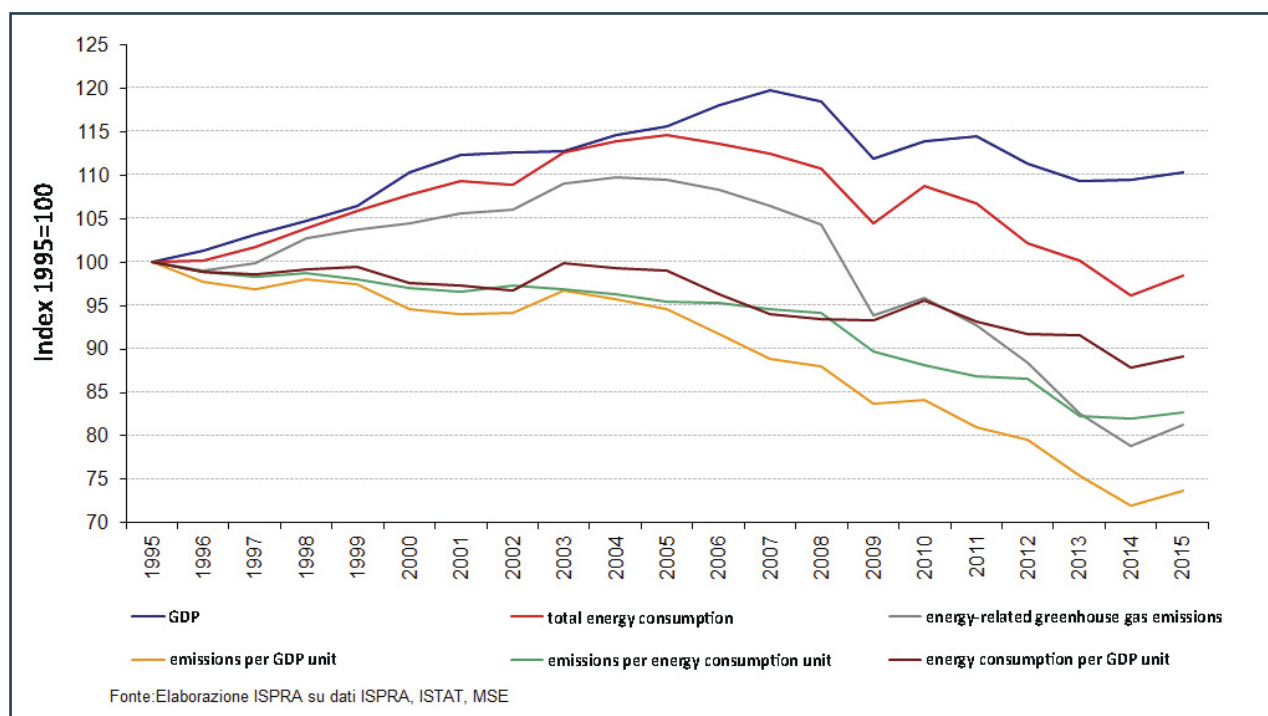
Although Italy is ranked in 16th place for “climate performance”- namely the efforts made and the

measures adopted to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change - it managed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in 2016 and 2017 (after an increase of 2% in 2015). This bucks the global trend, although these reductions are lower than those that marked the period 2008-2014 (figure 4), which coincided with a very serious economic crisis. Indeed, during those years per capita consumption of CO₂ fell from 9.6 tonnes (2008) to 7.1 tonnes (2014).

Greenhouse gas emissions, of which the main component is CO₂ (accounting for more than 80% of emissions), rose by 1.8% in 2015 and fell by 1.2% in 2016, accompanied by GDP growth of 0.9%. For 2017, estimates made by the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) show a 0.3% decrease, compared with a 1.5% increase in GDP, which confirms the significant trend towards decoupling economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions, a sign that Italy’s policies and measures to combat climate change are having positive effects. This trend also appears to be confirmed by the data for the first quarter of 2018¹⁴.

However, if we take the report on the Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing (BES) indicators presented to Parliament by the government on 15 February 2018 as a reference, a partially different and less rosy picture emerges. Projections for the CO₂ emissions indicator forecast substantially stable per capita consumption until 2020 (7.5 tonnes

Figure 4 - Economic and energetic indicators and energy-related greenhouse gas emissions (1995-2015)



of CO₂ per capita) against a backdrop of slight growth in GDP, while estimates for emissions per unit of GDP are better, falling from 0.28 in 2018 to 0.27 in 2019 and 2020.

In the course of this year, Italy must deliver its “Energy and climate plan, as prescribed by the Clean Energy for all Europeans Package” to the European Union, which will define the country’s path towards implementation of the Paris Agreement, via the EU 2030 Strategy. According to the Commission, only one plan should be drawn up, which should therefore include, on the one hand, the contents and forecasts of the National Energy Strategy (SEN) and, on the other, an assessment of the impact of all the sectors that are not strictly linked to the specific energy dimension covered by the SEN, such as transport, construction, agriculture, change of land use and forestation.

Given this outlook, it is ever more urgent to undertake initiatives that will end the use of coal by 2025. The additional added value of the new Plan, compared to the SEN, is that it will enable the 2030 targets for renewables and energy savings, which have been updated this year with the new targets agreed by the European Council, to be taken into account. By the time the Plan is drawn up, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will have published the profiles of emissions compatible with keeping the average global temperature rise below 1.5°C, by 2100. However, it is common knowledge that, on the basis of these new profiles, the Europe 2030 Strategy climate target for emissions (i.e. a 40% reduction compared to 1990, which is mandatory for Italy) would be insufficient to comply with the Paris Agreements and to achieve the objective desired by the IPCC.

GOAL 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

ISTAT’s SDG Report shows that the extent of protected marine areas is very large, amounting to 3,020.5 square kilometres, 75% of which are located in three regions: Sardinia, Sicily and Tuscany. The percentage of Italy’s coastline suitable for bathing amounts to 67.2%, a figure that has remained largely stable over time, although it should be borne in mind that “unsuitability for

bathing” is not only for health and hygiene reasons, as military areas, protected areas, ports and river mouths are also included in the tally.

Protection of the sea and marine resources is a fundamental priority for Italy, which has a significant impact - also regarding other Goals - on the sustainability and quality of the environment and climate. It is important to consider the critical aspects - regarding legality and the behaviour of individuals and economic actors - of a marine and coastal ecosystem that, as was pointed out in Legambiente’s 2017 “Mare Monstrum” report, has experienced more than 17,000 violations (46 per day) and registered the consequences of poor water purification, and unlawful and deliberate dumping of waste on Italy’s beaches (illegal dumping affects one inhabitant in four).

No new regulations relating to the sea have been introduced in the last year. The Italian regulatory framework deriving from the Framework Directive 2008/56/EC regarding a strategy for the marine environment, which requires achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES) by 2020, already largely responds to the achievement of several of the Goal 14 targets, but lacks adequate management tools for its implementation.

Among the innovations, the legislative process for approval of the “Amendments to Law 394 of 6 December 1991, and additional provisions regarding protected areas” (see 17th Legislature, Senate Bill 119), which is discussed in relation to the subsequent Goal 15, and which also regards the management of protected marine areas and marine reserves, is already at an advanced stage.

On 27 July 2018, the Cabinet ratified and implemented the Agreement on the Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment of a Mediterranean Sea Area (RAMOGE Agreement) between Italy, France and the Principality of Monaco, signed in Monaco on 10 May 1976, and amended in Monaco on 27 November 2003. The Agreement aims to protect the marine and coastal environment and its related biodiversity, as an essential component of the natural heritage of the Mediterranean. The 2003 amendment extended the area to be protected, comprising the territorial sea waters and the inland waters along the continental coast under the sovereignty of the three contracting states, of the continental coast and of the islands within the boundaries of the territorial sea waters.

Regarding Target 14.5 (protect at least 10% of coastal and marine areas), it should be recalled that Italy has already practically achieved this target, by protecting around 700 kilometres of its approximately 7,500 kilometres of coastal area, and 228,000 hectares of sea.

GOAL 15 - LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

In Italy, the territory covered by forests rose 20% between 1990 and 2015, to reach the current 31.6%. ISTAT's SDG Report points out that protected natural areas now cover around 80% of key areas for biodiversity, and 21.8% of the entire national territory. While a positive trend towards a reduction in the number of offences relating to illegal trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora is to be noted, at the same time there are serious threats to endangered terrestrial vertebrate species. Land consumption is continuing at a rapid pace (in the first half of 2016 around 50 km² of land were paved over or overbuilt), although less than in the past.

Unfortunately, during the last legislature, the approval process of the Land Consumption Law (see 17th Legislature, Senate Bill 2383) was not concluded. The Law's aims included the reduction of land consumption, with land being recognised as a renewable and productive resource of ecosystem services, and it introduced the principle that land consumption is only allowed if there are no other alternatives, such as the use of brownfield sites and urban regeneration. Its direct effects also encouraged achievement of the objective to halt the loss of biodiversity (see Target 15.1-15.5), and combat soil degradation (see Target 15.3), which has a cross-cutting effect on several of the Goal 15 and other SDG targets.

The objective of reducing land consumption is contained in the "government contract", which states: "It is also essential to halt land consumption (land waste), which must be completely eliminated via an appropriate support policy that promotes urban regeneration. In this respect, actions should be promoted to support initiatives to upgrade the existing building stock, and encour-

age urban regeneration and the retrofitting (energy efficiency improvement) of buildings". Bill 63/2018 presented at the beginning of the current legislature by the members of the Five Star Movement is a move in this direction.

The process regarding "Amendments to Law 394 of 6 December 1991 and further provisions relating to protected areas" (see 17th Legislature, Senate Bill 119) was also not completed during the last legislature. In this case, however, the text included several critical aspects, which were already highlighted in the ASviS Report for 2017. Its content did not appear to improve on the current situation and, therefore, it was unable to ensure proper implementation of Goal 15 (and 14) targets, such as the exclusion sites included in the Natura 2000 network from protected area status under Law 394/91, the possibility of financing parks with activities unrelated to conservation objectives (for example, concessions for energy production and mining activities in areas adjacent to parks), and non-compulsory specific scientific preparation regarding nature conservation to fill the role of Park Director.

Legislative Decree 34/2018, "Consolidated act regarding forests and forest-based industries", was issued, with the aim of promoting active management of "woodland assets" throughout Italy and strengthening its role in coordination at central level. The measure aims to address important issues (for example, the definition of "woodland") and to encourage identification of nationally applicable points of reference for regional systems. Attention is paid to the need to ensure the environmental, economic and social functions of forest ecosystems via the promotion of payment mechanisms for ecosystem services (but still on a voluntary basis) and measures to protect biodiversity. Action to promote voluntary certification of sustainable forest management and the traceability of forest products are encouraged.

For the time being, however, implementation of the legislation is still partial, as nine implementing decrees need to be issued (including the drawing up of a National Forestry Strategy), which will affect regional regulations and operational and management aspects. The implementing decrees and the ensuing regional provisions must ensure that the productive use of forest heritage, encouraged by the Legislative Decree itself, is consistent with the achievement of environmental objectives and respect for the de-

clared principle of forest heritage as “an asset of significant public interest to be protected and enhanced for the stability and wellbeing of present and future generations”.

GOAL 16 - PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

In 2016, 400 people were murdered in Italy (0.7 per 100,000 inhabitants, one of the lowest figures in the EU). The homicide rate for men has fallen over the years, while the figure for women has remained stable. The percentage of citizens who feel safe when walking in the dark in the area where they live has risen (from 59.6% in 2009 to 60.6% in 2016), although the figure is still lower than in 2002 (64.6%). Despite the improvement in recent years, the average duration of civil cases in ordinary courts is still very long (445 days on average in 2017).

On the subject of combating all forms of violence and exploitation, in addition to the content of Targets 16.1, 16.2 and 16.b to “promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development”, the implementing measures of Law 71 of 29 May 2017 containing “provisions for the protection of minors through the prevention and combating of cyberbullying” should be noted.

Law 167 of 20 November 2017, regarding “Provisions for the fulfilment of obligations deriving from Italy’s membership of the European Union”, included the crimes of racism and xenophobia as a prerequisite for liability pursuant to art. 25 terdecies of Legislative Decree 231/2001. Therefore, pursuant to art. 3, paragraph 3 bis of Law 654 of 3 October 1975, as amended by the aforementioned European Law, propagandisation, namely instigation and incitement, committed in such a way as to constitute a real danger of dissemination, is punishable if based in whole or in part on the denial, minimisation in a serious way, or apology for the Shoah or crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

In this respect, the significant number of offences that regard these two laws, which have

increased in recent months, should be noted. In its report, “Stories of everyday racism”, the Lunaria Association identified 1,483 episodes of racism from 2015 to 2017, including 1,197 cases of verbal abuse, 84 of physical violence and 11 fatalities, while the National Anti-Racial Discrimination Office (UNAR), set up within the Cabinet Office, which has jurisdiction over cases of non-criminal discrimination, deemed 2,652 of the 2,939 ongoing investigations in 2016 to be relevant.

Finally, in the closing days of the 17th legislature, Parliament approved Law 4 of 11 January 2018, which protects children orphaned as a result of violence and domestic crimes by providing a series of safeguards and guarantees, including financial ones, “to children who are minors and adult children who are not financially self-sufficient and have been left without a parent as a result of a murder committed by the other spouse, even if legally separated or divorced”.

With reference to Target 16.3 (promote the rule of law at national and international level, and ensure equal access to justice for all), a number of decrees implementing Law 103 of 23 June 2017 (known as the “Orlando reform”) have been issued. These intervene in the justice system with the aim of improving the efficiency of the penal system in terms of due process, the admissibility regime for certain offences and affirmation of the principle that new offences may only be included in the criminal code (Legislative Decrees 21 of 1 March 2018 and 36 of 10 April 2018).

With respect to Target 16.4 (significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organised crime), the “National strategy for the development of assets and companies confiscated from organised crime” of February 2018, prepared by the Cabinet Office’s Department of Cohesion Policy and the National Agency for the Administration and Allocation of Assets Seized and Confiscated from Organised Crime, in implementation of the 2017 Budget Law, was adopted. Moreover, Law 161 of 17 October 2017 amended the so-called Anti-Mafia Code, affecting the content of prevention measures and the management of seized and confiscated assets, and extending the applicability of these measures to corrupt organisations, and more specifically to those referred to in Article 416 of the Italian Penal Code,

regarding the commission of certain crimes against the public administration.

In relation to Target 16.5, regarding the pervasiveness of criminal organisations and the spread of cases of corruption, no significant legislative changes were made compared to previous years. However, the measures put in place to reduce the incidence of corrupt practices within the scope of the recent law on whistleblowing (Law 179 of 30 November 2017), which protects workers who report and denounce illegal conduct in the contexts of both public and private employment “in the interests of the integrity of the public administration”, thereby playing a significant role in the prevention and detection of corruption, are to be welcomed.

There are no recent updates to report regarding the issues relating to Targets 16.6 and 16.7 (transparency, inclusiveness, guarantee of access and civic participation in administrative and institutional governance), given the recent adoption of the so-called “Freedom of Information Act” (FOIA), introduced by Legislative Decree 97 of 25 May 2016. This is an integral part of the process of reforming the public sector as defined by Law 124 of 7 August 2015, which governs the effectiveness, accountability and transparency of public institutions, as well as the level of citizens’ participation in decision-making processes.

The impact of EU Regulation 2016/67 on the protection of personal data (General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR), which became fully operational in all EU member states on 25 May 2018, is highly relevant with regard to Target 16.10 (ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements). The purposes of personal data processing must now be defined in a more detailed and accurate way in the light of the new text, which clarifies the lack of any contradiction between the values of transparency and personal data protection.

Finally, also noteworthy in terms of the importance of access to information in relations between companies and citizens, is the implementation of the disclosure requirements in Legislative Decree 254 of 30 December 2016 regarding the “reporting of non-financial information” for large groups or those of public interest.

GOAL 17 - PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

In January 2018, with the organisation of the National Development Cooperation Conference CO[OPERA], implementation of all the provisions introduced by Law 125 of 2014 (General Regulations for International Development Cooperation) was completed. However, for the “new” development cooperation to become fully operational, a competition needs to be held to provide the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) with the human resources provided for by law and required for its operation. The process of selecting a director for the Agency is in progress, following the resignation of its former head.

Regarding the resources and the commitment undertaken at international level to allocate 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to Official Development Assistance (ODA), in 2017 Italy’s ODA expenditure amounted to €5,086 million, or 0.29% of GNI. With the Economic and Financial Planning Document (DEF) presented last April, the outgoing government confirmed its intention to achieve 0.30% by 2020. Indeed, in the coming years the forecasts could be radically changed due to increased expenditure on the reception of migrants and refugees, which represents a growing share (almost 40%) of total ODA.

Another noteworthy element is the amendment made by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation to the guidelines regarding the enrolment of civil society organisations in the list of entities eligible for public funding of cooperation initiatives, an approach that is more inclusive and more in keeping with the spirit of Law 125/2014.

The National Council for Development Cooperation (CNCS) has approved the National Strategy for Global Citizenship Education, but this document has been awaiting approval by the Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation (CICS) for several months. Also, regarding Goal 17, it should be noted that the process relating to the national law on fair trade was interrupted with the conclusion of the 17th Legislature. A Fair Trade Act is important to define and recognise the sector, in all its forms, and to ensure better opportunities for disadvantaged producers in developing countries.

The work of the Ministry of the Environment on revision of the Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC) is proceeding. In 2017, MEC were approved with regard to the procurement of textile products, where fair trade is recognised as playing a positive role in the supply of work clothes and personal protective equipment. 2018 could see the approval of new MEC regarding catering, which will regulate the environmental and social sustainability of school and university canteens, as well as catering services for public offices. The great innovation in the proposal under discussion is the inclusion of criteria aimed at reducing the social impact of procuring products defined as exotic (bananas, pineapples, cocoa, cane sugar, coffee). This innovation would bring the Italian public sector into line with other European countries in terms of support for disadvantaged producers in developing countries.

The failure, during the 17th legislature, to approve Bill 2343, “Principles for the protection, governance and public management of water”, which introduced recognition of particularly relevant and innovative principles and tools for the achievement of Goal 6 and Goal 17 (with the introduction of international solidarity instruments such as a fund for implementation of drinking water projects in poor countries), leaves a significant gap that we hope will be filled as soon as possible during the 18th legislature. Moreover, the Italian Strategy for Sustainable Development, approved by the CIPE in December 2017, confirmed the exclusion of any reference to access to drinking water among the objectives to be safeguarded, at national level, as human rights (under People), and among the objectives falling under International Partnerships with reference to governance for the protection of “human rights”.

Although universal access to water is a precondition for peaceful coexistence among peoples and the relationship between humankind and the environment, the fact that this objective is not explicitly referred to at the partnership relations level, especially with regard to international cooperation as a means of strengthening international partnerships, appears to be a serious omission. Moreover, the exclusion of access to water and safeguarding water from the targets identified as priorities in the promotion of international partnerships, is in contradiction with:

- Italy’s vote in favour of the UN resolutions of 2010 and 2015, and with the proposal sup-

ported by the government in 2015, during definition of the 2030 Agenda, in favour of including the human right to water in Goal 6;

- the planning guidelines of the government in office, which has indicated “publicly owned water” as one of the objectives in the coalition agreement, with the aim of complying with the referendum result of 2011;
- the position upheld by the Minister for the Environment, Sergio Costa, at the Council of Environment Ministers, held in Brussels at the end of June, with reference to the proposal for a “Drinking water” directive. The minister said that: “To ensure access to water as a natural asset and a universal human right, surface and groundwater must not be commodified. We need to encourage public and participatory governance of the entire integrated water cycle”.

NOTES

- ¹ Promoted by the Conference of Italian University Rectors (CRUI) in July 2015, the RUS is the first experience of coordination and sharing among about 60 Italian universities committed to sustainability and social responsibility issues, created with the aim of promoting the SDGs, disseminating a sustainability culture and good practices, and enhancing the value of the Italian experience at international level. The establishment of five thematic working groups (climate change, energy, mobility, waste and education) enables RUS to work operationally on individual issues in order to pursue the Network's objectives.
- ² As already mentioned, this indicator shows a different trend from the previous version in February, due to elimination of the indicator regarding the propensity of public authorities to spend on agriculture, and the introduction of a good food indicator (including among the ISTAT's BES indicators), which has registered an uptrend since 2014.
- ³ The positive trend of this indicator is slightly less pronounced than in the previous version, due to elimination of the "Rate of participation in education (pre-school and first year of primary school) for 5-year-olds" indicator, which has been replaced by the BES indicator, "People aged 25 to 64 who have at least completed secondary school (high school)". In addition, three new indicators have been introduced within the composite indicator, two from the OECD-PISA surveys regarding 15-year-old students who do not attain functional skills in reading (slightly up since 2012) and mathematics (slightly but steadily decreasing), while the third concerns kindergartens (attendance of 0-2 year-olds per 100 residents), which shows a positive trend until the school year 2011/2012, and then declines slightly in subsequent years.
- ⁴ Compared to the previous version, in the composite indicator the number of researchers (full-time equivalent) per inhabitant, the number of knowledge workers, and the distribution of company websites indicator have been introduced, all showing moderately upward trends. For this reason, the composite indicator shows a slightly more positive trend.
- ⁵ Compared to the previous version, the ISTAT data on domestic material consumption have changed. Specifically, domestic material consumption per capita has risen in the last two years, whereas previously it had declined. Therefore, the composite indicator shows a rising trend in the first few years, followed by a three-year period of stability.
- ⁶ The "Land cover" and "Territorial fragmentation" indicators were provided by ISPRA.
- ⁷ The indicators regarding "Households that cannot afford certain items of expenditure: heating homes adequately" and "Energy consumption covered by renewable sources (as a percentage of total final energy consumption)" have been eliminated. At the same time, the indicator regarding "Households very or fairly satisfied with the continuity of the electricity service" was included, which shows a rising trend, with a slight decrease in 2013 and 2015.
- ⁸ The trend of this composite indicator has changed slightly compared to the previous version due to the introduction of indicators relating to "Robberies per 10,000 inhabitants" which, after constantly rising until 2014, has registered a sharp decline in the last two years, standing at lower levels than in 2010, and to "Burglaries per 10,000 inhabitants", which shows a similar trend to robberies, but in 2016 stood at higher levels than those registered in 2010.
- ⁹ The National Plan refers to the regional planning of methods of collaboration and cooperation among services.
- ¹⁰ Regarding this aspect see: <http://www.programmagoverno.gov.it/it/>
- ¹¹ Acciari P., Alvaredo F., Morelli S. (2018), https://www.forumdisuguaglianzediversita.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Forum_ASVIS-22-Maggio-2018-_Morelli.pdf
- ¹² <http://www.consob.it/web/area-pubblica/bollettino/documenti/bollettino2018/d20267.htm>.
- ¹³ <https://www.borsaitaliana.it/comitato-corporate-governance/codice/2018clean.pdf>.
- ¹⁴ ISPRA, 2018, 2017: "GDP is up and greenhouse gas emissions are down", at: <http://www.periodicodaily.com/2018/05/19/2017-aumenta-pil-diminuiscono-le-emissioni-gas-serra/>.



The regions and sustainable development policies



3. The regions and sustainable development policies

For the first time this year, the ASviS Report takes a close look at how Italy's regions are measuring up against the 2030 Agenda goals, using composite indicators that sum up the performance of each region versus Italy as a whole¹, based on almost 80 elementary statistical indicators. In this way, it is possible to rank the individual regions with respect to the national average and examine the related trends, the most significant differences, and the best and the worst performances from 2010 through to recent times.

In addition, this chapter includes an analysis based on statistical indicators for individual cities, as well as the results of an original study conducted by the ENI Enrico Mattei Foundation (FEEM), which has put together the SDG City Index, a composite indicator for Italian cities based on 39 elementary indicators.

This examination of Italy's regions is an important development in the process of designing policies in keeping with the National Sustainable Development Strategy, which gives regional and municipal authorities a role in delivering sustainable development in line with the various aspects of the 2030 Agenda and its goals.

If, on the one hand, the dynamics of globalisation have weakened the part played by national policies, on the other, they have enhanced the role and value of local and urban planning, which can have a key role in influencing the quality of economic development, social cohesion and the quality of the environment. Obviously, inequalities between regions and local areas (very significant in our country) also have an impact on the ability of local authorities to plan for and deliver truly sustainable development.

Furthermore, the actual impact of many policies is only visible at local level, where delivery of the 2030 Agenda goals translates into greater wellbeing for citizens. It is also at local level that consultation, inclusion and participation of the public and local communities in monitoring and assessing the policies implemented can be most effectively achieved.

3.1 The SDGs at local level

Goal 11, among others, in the 2030 Agenda acknowledges the importance of cities and local communities in implementing the policies and actions necessary in order to achieve the SDGs. For this reason, in March 2018, ASviS worked with Urban@it on development of "The urban sustainable development agenda" and encouraged a number of cities to hold "Citizens' Festivals" as part of the Sustainable Development Festival, a proposal taken up by several cities, including Bari, Bologna and Parma.

This project is closely aligned with the international community's growing attention to the need to "localise" the 2030 Agenda and use indicators of wellbeing and sustainability in assessing the quality of people's lives. In fact, a number of international and supranational organisations, such as the OECD and the EU² have for some years begun to assess wellbeing at the local level. In this context, the Pact of Amsterdam: Urban Agenda for the EU, agreed in 2016, has identified the most important challenges involved in improving the quality of life and wellbeing in urban areas. Meanwhile, at global level, the UN's Habitat III conference, held in Quito in 2016, adopted the "New Urban Agenda", which is closely linked to the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda SDGs.

In Italy, in June 2017, the "Bologna Charter for the Environment. Metropolitan cities for sustainable development" (drawn up with the contribution of ASviS) committed the mayors of Italy's metropolitan cities to sustainability targets in various spheres. Last June, on the other hand, Italy's national statistical office (ISTAT) published "Measuring equitable and sustainable wellbeing at local level", providing data on 61 indicators that analyse the conditions in 110 Italian provinces and metropolitan cities. The data was based on the results of projects conducted by ISTAT in collaboration with ANCI (the National Association of Italian Local Authorities) and UPI (the Union of Italian Provinces) in order to measure wellbeing in Italy's provinces and cities.

Italy's civil society has also been paying close attention to sustainable development from a regional and local perspective. Initiatives have included Legambiente's annual "Urban Ecosystem Index" and the "Regional Quality of Development Index" (QUARS) created by

the Sbilanciamoci movement, which assesses trends in sustainable development and the related conditions in Italian regions against the 56 indicators for the various economic, social and environmental domains.

The recent Cabinet Office Directive implementing the country's National Sustainable Development Strategy (SNSvS) has confirmed that regional, provincial and municipal authorities are to play a key role in delivering the strategy. In particular, point 4 of the Directive, in setting up the "National Sustainable Development Commission", has established that the Commission's members are to include the Chair of the Conference of Regional Authorities, the Chair of UPI and the Chair of ANCI, whilst point 8 identifies a number of projects to be carried out under the auspices of the Unified Conference, where regional, provincial and municipal authorities will be expected to work together, within the scope of their prerogatives and areas of responsibility, in order to bring about achievement of the SDGs. This would appear to be in line with the SNSvS, which calls for the creation of "regional sustainable development strategies" that include the "definition of a series of regional goals, specifying their relationships with national goals" and a series of related indicators. This is to be accompanied by a plan for monitoring and revising the strategy on a regional basis, to which implementation tools and funding in regional budgets for initiatives designed to deliver on the goals are to be linked. Regional sustainable development forums are also to be set up, as well as an oversight body to involve local authorities.

In order to support the creation of regional strategies, the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea Protection has recently made the sum of €2 million available to the autonomous regional and provincial administrations. In addition, funding is also to be provided for the national Governance Plan, with the aim of spreading awareness of the goals and working practices set out in the 2030 Agenda, including among non-government stakeholders, and assisting in their definition at regional level.

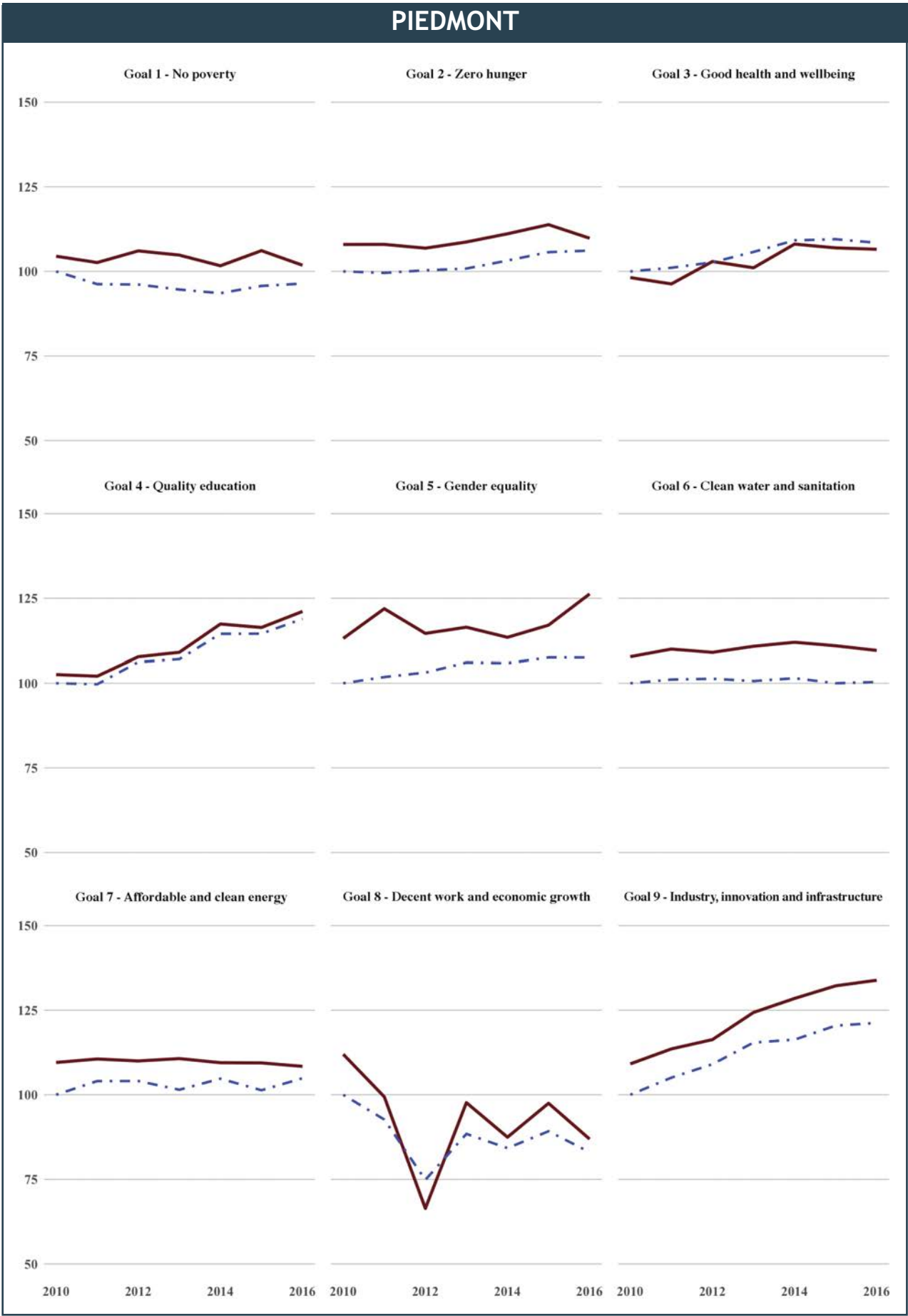
Regional authorities, on the other hand, starting from their decision to take part in the National Reform Programme in 2017, have taken on a major role in implementing the 2030 Agenda, underlining the fact that "the autonomous regional and provincial administrations intend to work towards achieving the European Union's aim of acting as a trailblazer in relation to the universal sustainable development strategy, and ensuring that the reforms included by the autonomous regional and provincial administrations in the reform programmes deliver on the SDGs".

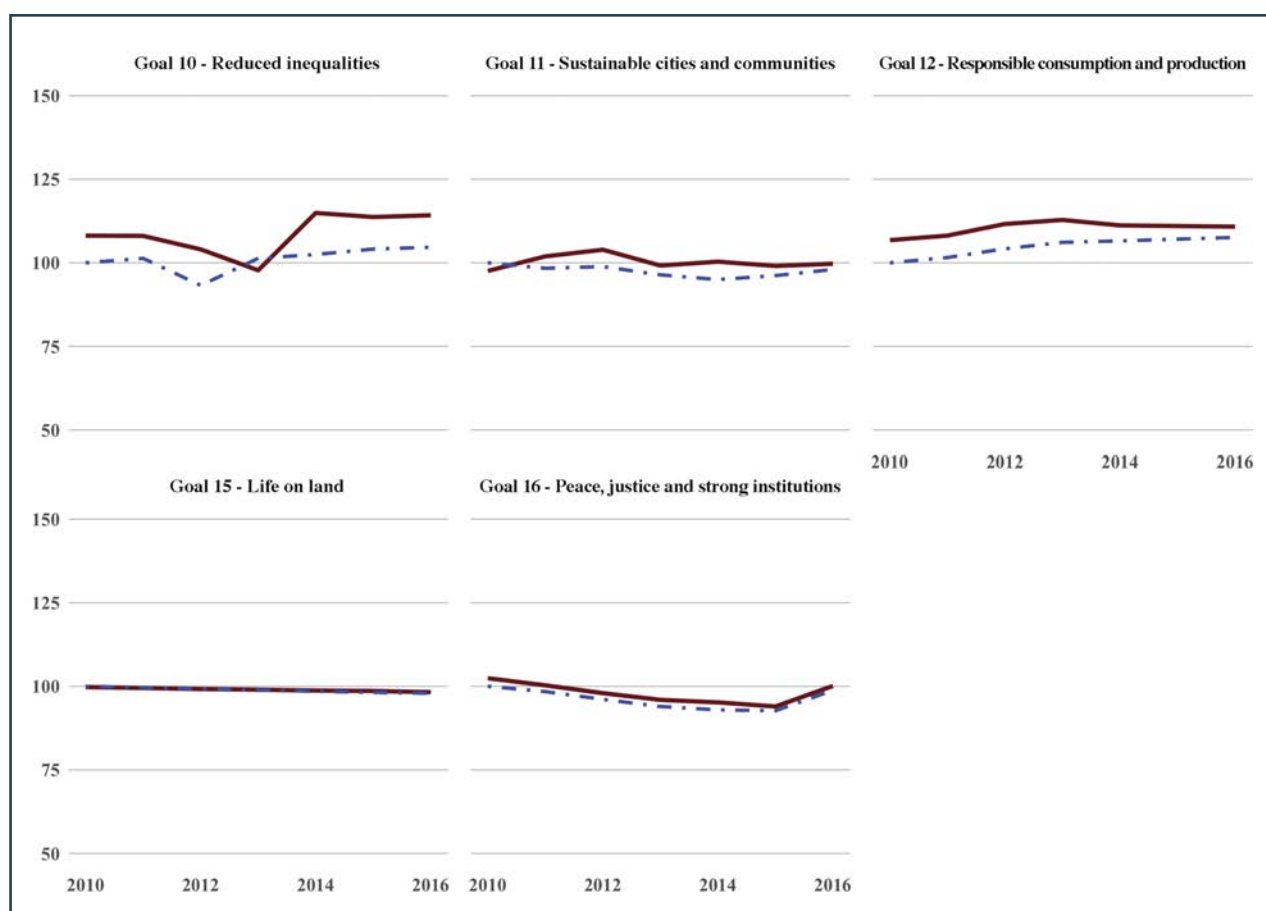
3.2 How do Italy's regions rank with respect to the SDGs

To ensure a correct interpretation of the composite indicators at regional level, it is necessary to take note of a number of brief considerations regarding methodology. Firstly, the national composite indicators presented in Chapter 2 differ from those used below. Whilst, in the first case, it was possible to use a broader group of elementary indicators for the various aspects, in the second, scores have been computed on the basis of indicators that have been unbundled by region or that are in any event significant on a conceptual level (for the full list, see Table 1 on page 112-113). As a result, for the first reason, certain indicators of Italy's performance presented below differ from those shown in Chapter 2 and it was not possible to compute the indicator for Goal 13, whilst for the second reason the indicators for Goals 14 (Life below water) and 17 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) have not been computed³.

Secondly, the method used to compute the composite indicators⁴ is based on the choice of a base value (the one used by Italy in 2010) and the standardisation of elementary indicators within an interval set between the minimum and maximum values for each indicator for all the components taken into account and over the full period of time. This means that the minimum and maximum values differ depending on whether they refer to Italy as a whole (the national composites in Chapter 2) or to all the Italian regions (as per the indicators described in this chapter).

Finally, whilst all the regional indicators (shown with a red line, whilst the national average is shown with a blue dotted line) have been computed with reference to the base value for Italy in 2010, it is possible to compare the performance of the various Goals over time within the same region, but not the absolute rankings for the various indicators. In contrast, this is possible if the performances of the different regions⁵ with respect to each Goal are compared.



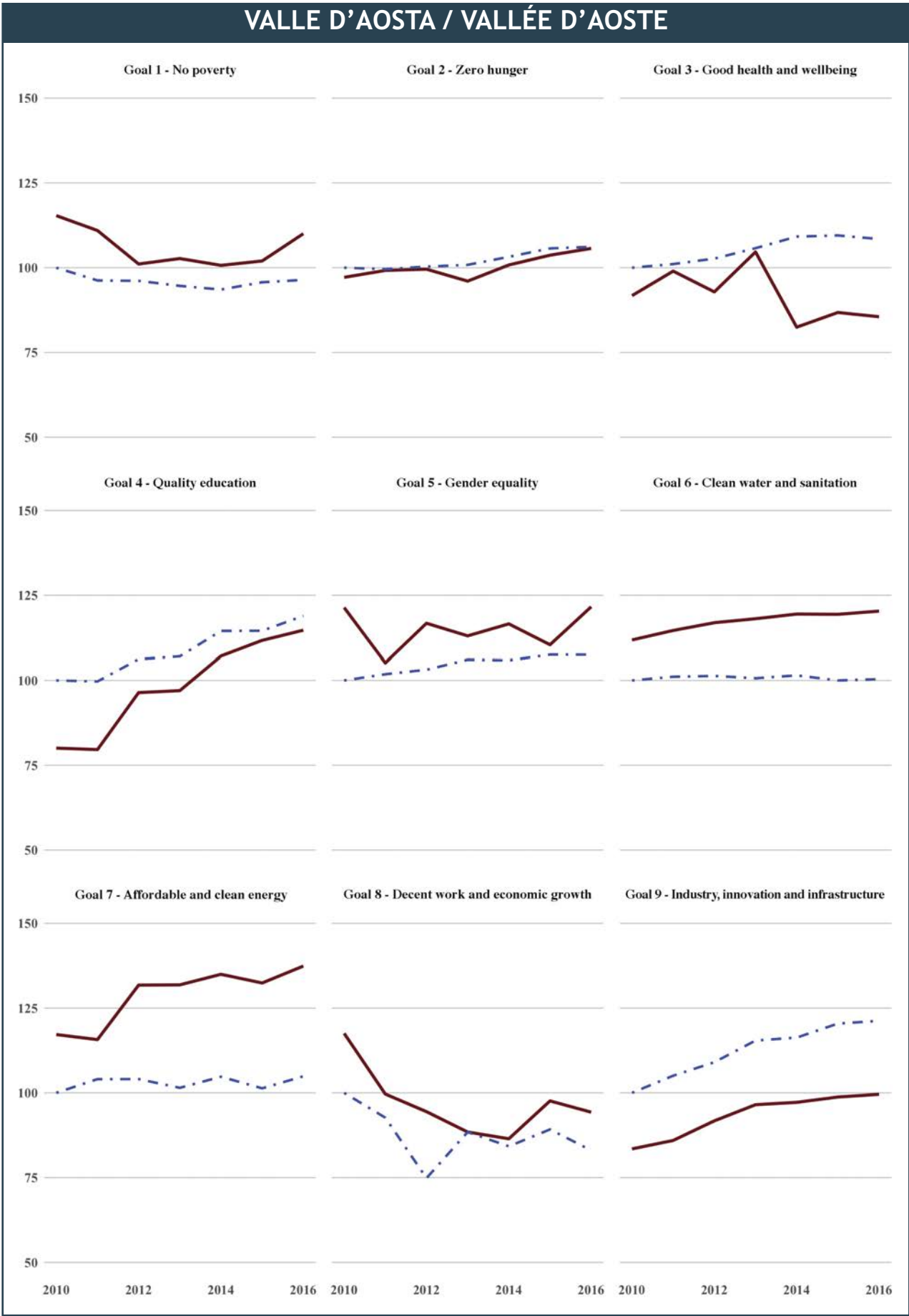


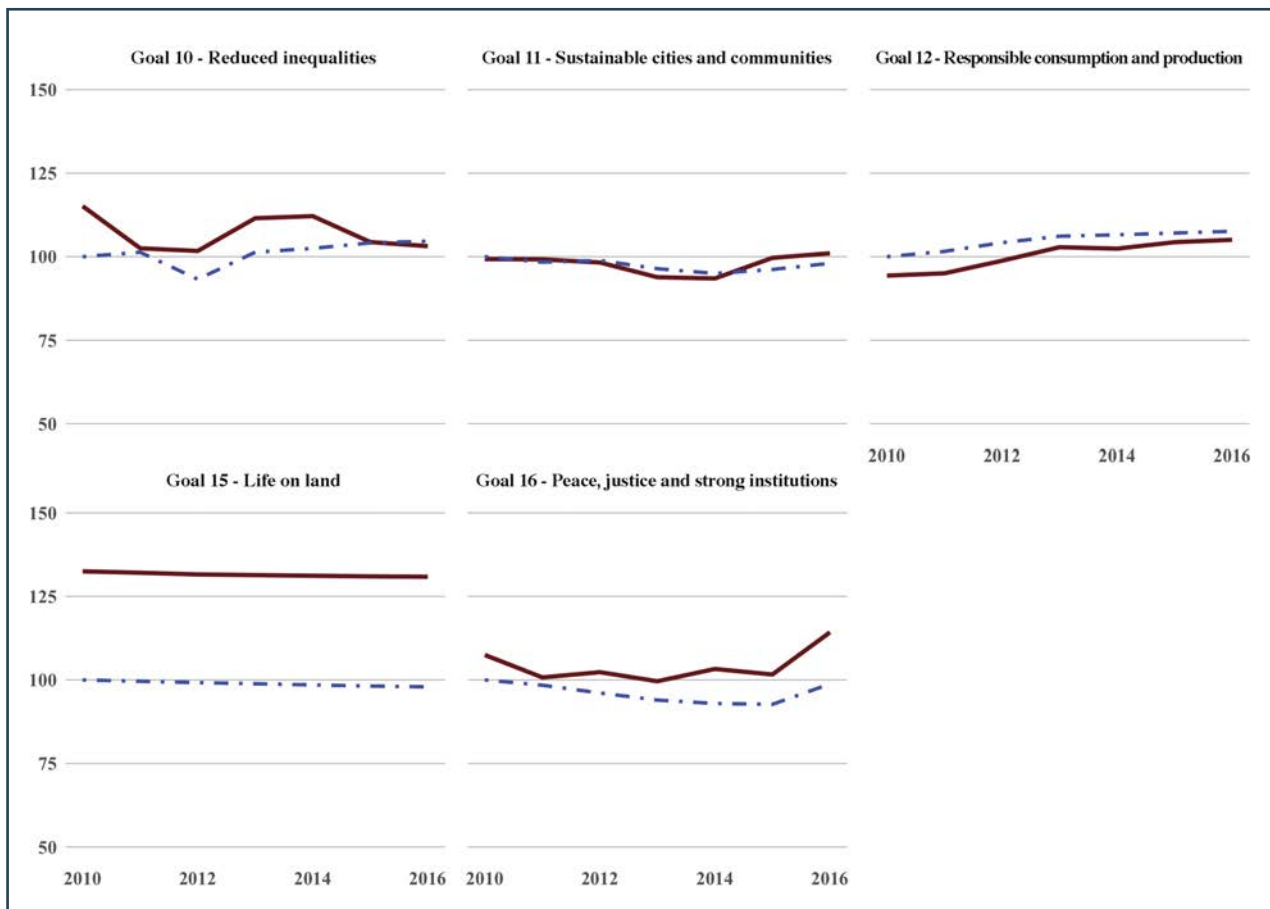
The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) show improvements, even if in some cases only slight, compared with the national average. In the case of Goal 1 (No poverty), the composite indicator is higher and has recorded a similar performance with respect to the Italian average, with the exception of 2015, when there was an improvement, followed by a decline due to changes in the number of individuals in low labour-intensive households and the housing cost overburden rate. The performance of the composite indicator for Goal 2 (Zero hunger) is similar to that of Italy, but fell in the last year linked to a decline in good nutrition and an increase in overweight children.

Goals 4 (Quality education), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) have slightly improved, in line with

the national performance. Gender equality (Goal 5) rose between 2014 and 2016, driven by the increased number of women graduates and by greater increases in healthy life expectancy for women at birth and in the rate of women in the workforce. The performance of Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) is stable in this region, unlike the situation in Italy as a whole. In terms of reduced inequalities (Goal 10), Piedmont has outperformed, above all from 2014, thanks to an increase in household incomes among the poorest 40% of the population and in average per capita disposable income. The ranking for Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) in 2016 is better than the national average, thanks to the greater volume of effluent treated in secondary or advanced plants as a percentage of the total quantity of urban waste generated. Health (Goal 3) recorded an uneven trend and then declined, reflecting higher standardised rates of mortality and alcohol consumption compared with those for Italy.

In terms of life on land (Goal 15), the situation in Piedmont is comparable to Italy as a whole.



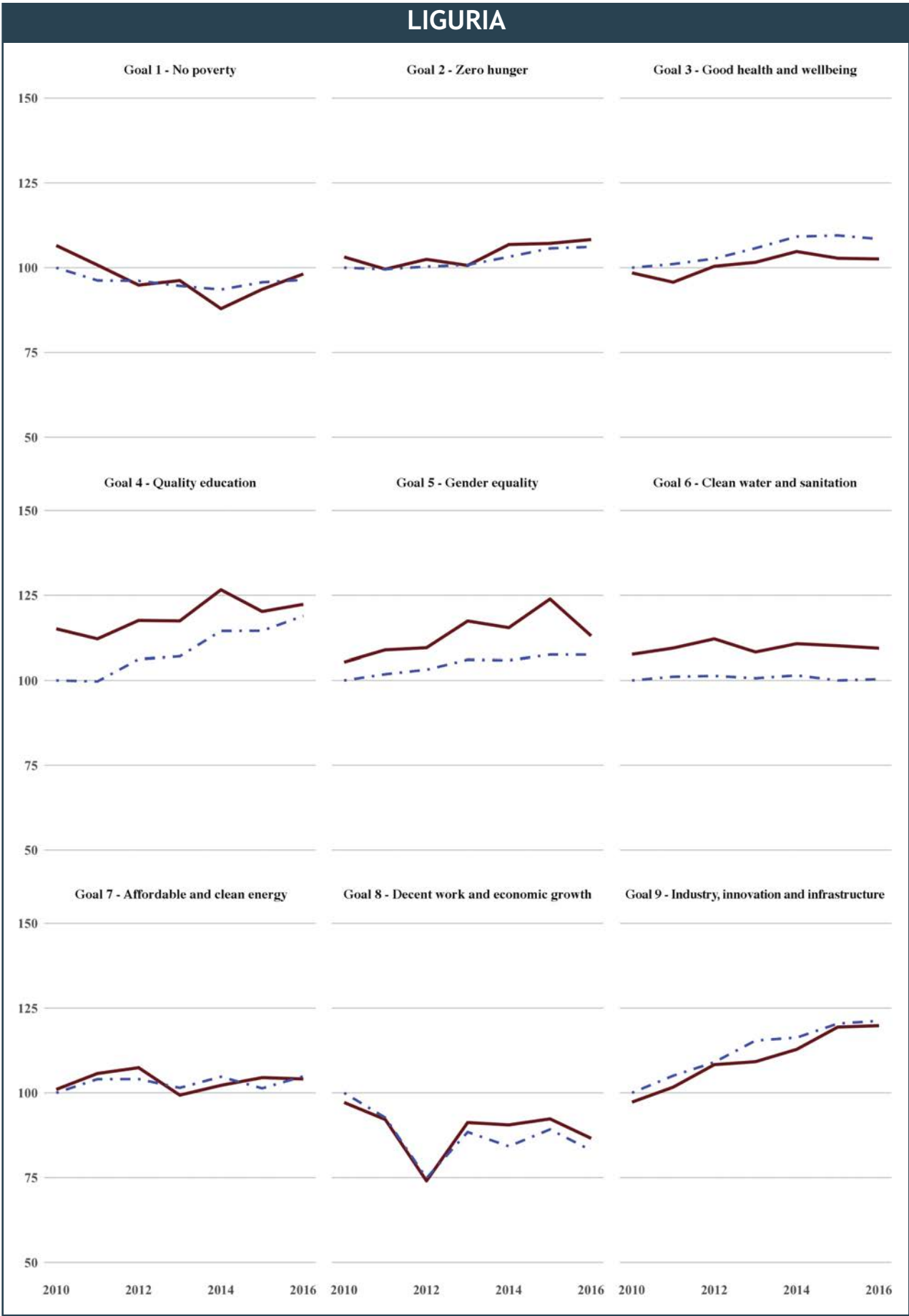


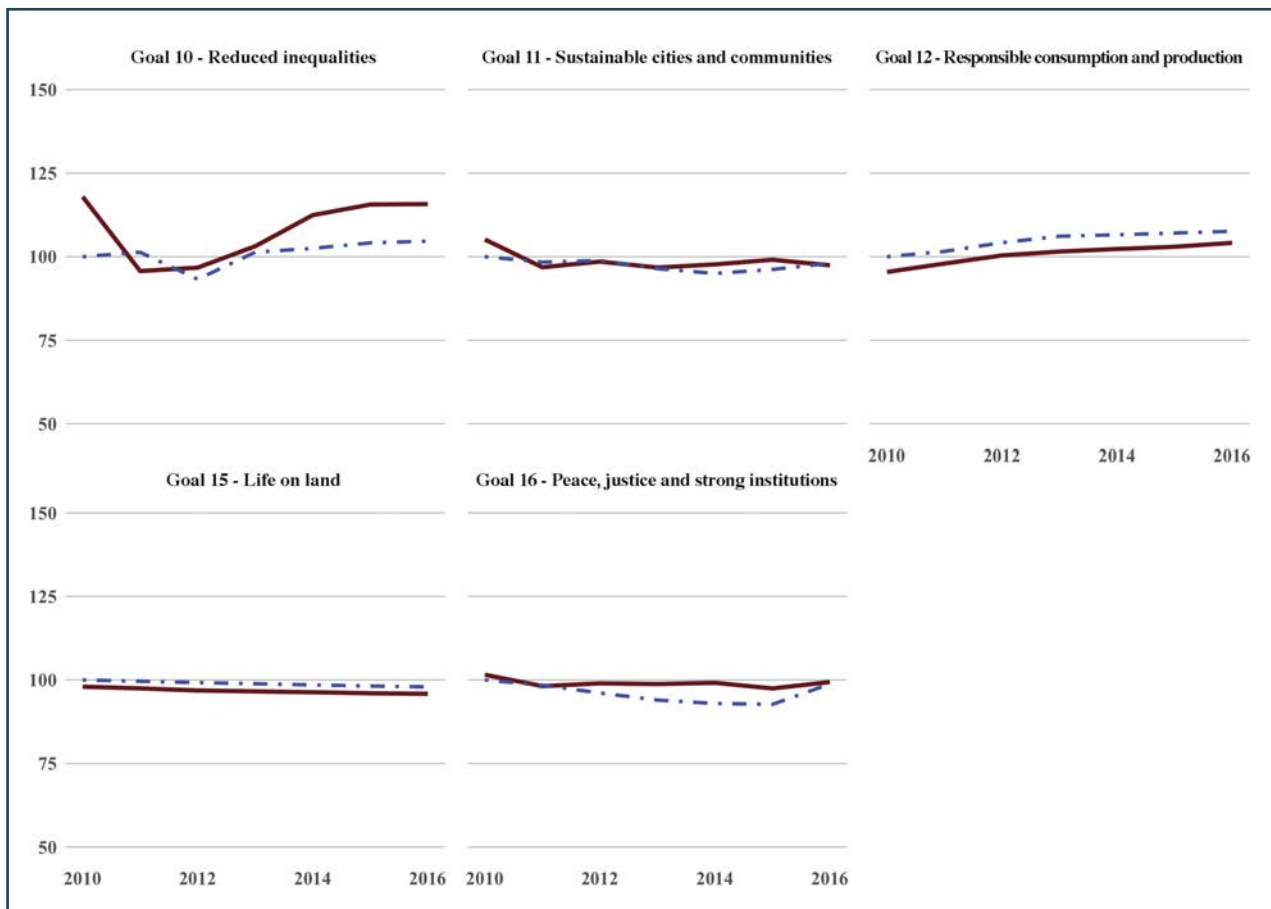
The composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 15 (Life on land) show that Valle d'Aosta is performing better than the country as a whole. Goal 1 (No poverty) declined until 2012, before falling into line with the national average, whilst there was a noticeable improvement in the period 2015-2016, driven by reductions in the indicators of severe material deprivation and households in economic difficulty. The composite indicator for Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) has risen at a faster rate than the figure for Italy, thanks to the improved efficiency of drinking water distribution, with this indicator rising from 67% in 2010 to 81.3% in 2016, compared with a national average of 59%.

Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 4 (Quality education) and 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) ranks below the Italian average. In particular, Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) see-sawed in the first three years before drastically worsening due to a significant increase in the infant mortality rate, which rose from 1.6% in 2010 to 4% in 2016, compared with a national average of 2%. In the case of Quality education (Goal 4), the region's performance has improved signif-

icantly from 2011 on, reflecting a fall in early leavers from education and training and an increase in the proportion of 30 to 34-year olds with a university degree: this figure rose from 16% in 2010 to 25% in 2016.

Goals 2 (Zero hunger), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production), 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) have performed very much in line with Italy as a whole. From 2010 to 2014, Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth) has worsened considerably, reflecting an increased unemployment rate, which is up from 4.5% to 8.9%. Peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) performed more or less in line with the national average until 2015, before sharply improving due to a halving of the duration of civil cases (101 days compared with a national average of 460). Goal 2 (Zero hunger) worsened in 2013 due to a reduction in the indicator for land used in organic farming, which amounts to 7.1% in 2016 compared with a national average of 12.3%.



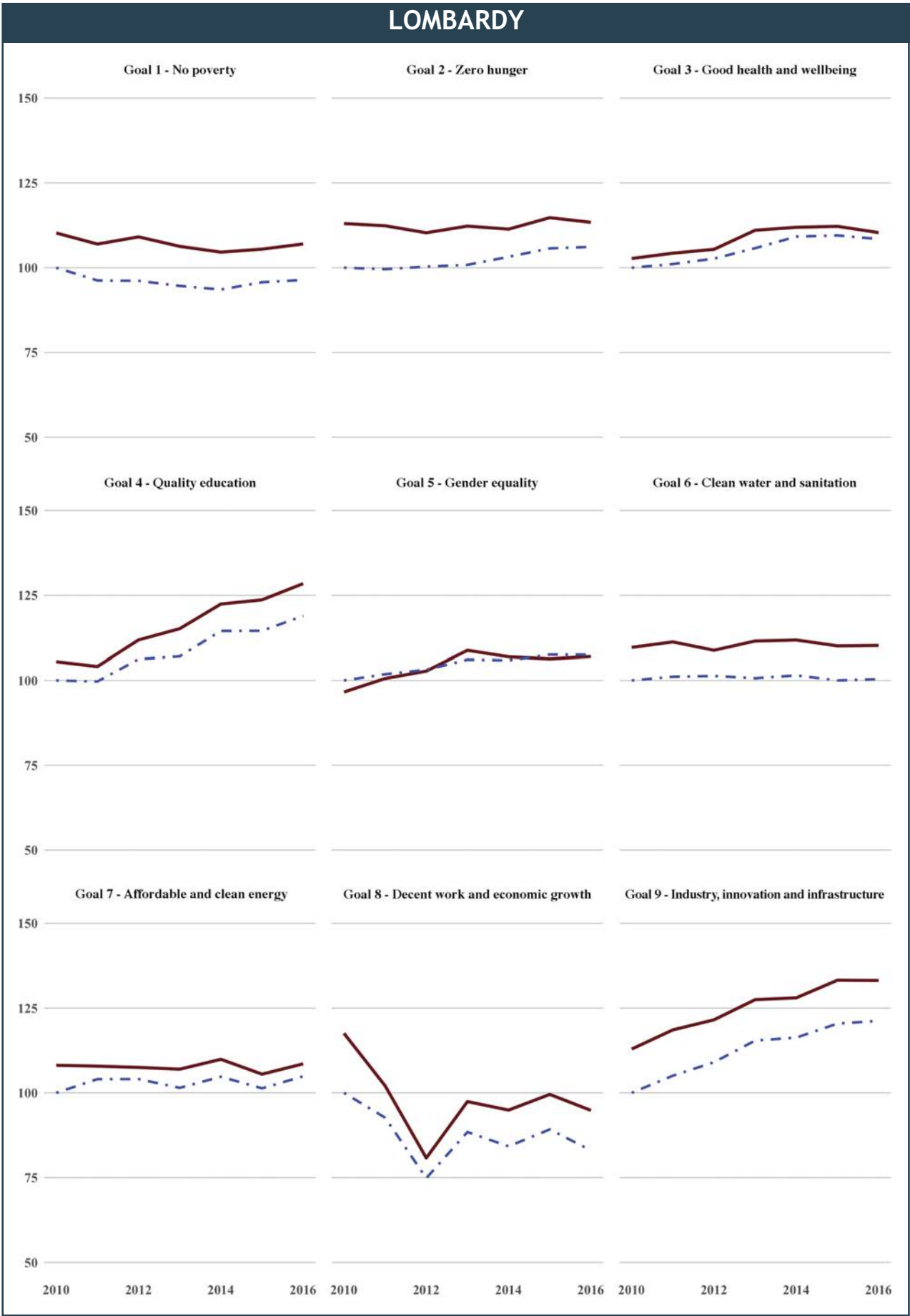


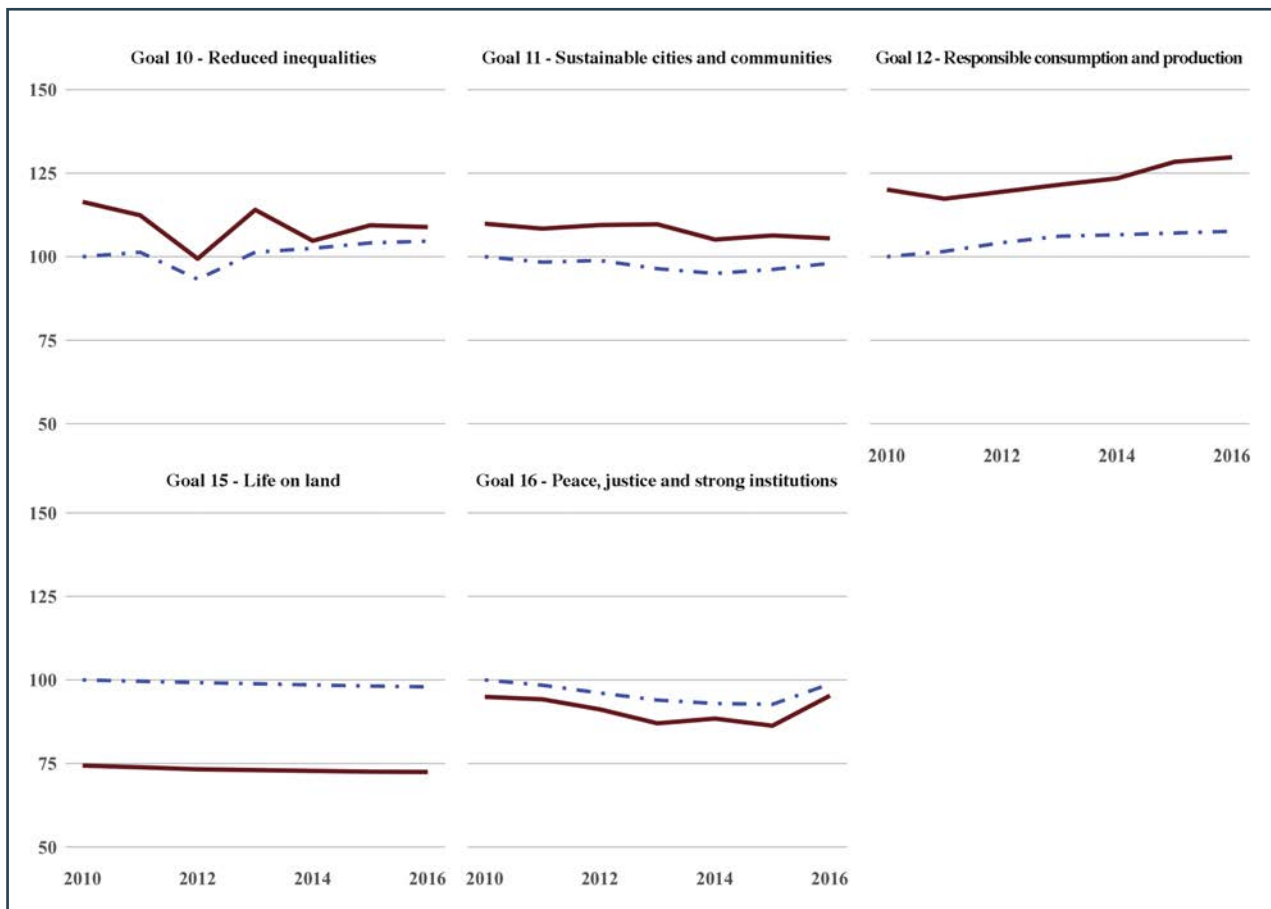
The composite indicators for Goals 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 10 (Reduced inequalities) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) place Liguria ahead of the national rankings. Trends for Goals 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) and 6 (Clean water and sanitation) are broadly similar to those at national level, whilst there are major differences for Goals 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality) and 10 (Reduced inequalities). Until 2015, Goal 5 (Gender equality) was very much in positive territory, reflecting an increase in the ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children, which rose from 84% in 2010 to 89% in 2015, before falling back to 81% in 2016. The composite indicator for Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) was in line with the national trend in the first three years, before rising in 2013 on the back of an increase in per capita disposable income.

Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production) are below the Italian average. The composite indicator for Goal 3 performed in line with the national average, rising until 2014 thanks to a decline in the

standardised mortality rate for the most common causes of death in the 30-69 age range, which fell from 248 in 2010 to 221 in 2015.

The composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 15 (Life on land) are in line with national trends. The composite regional indicator for Goal 1 significantly worsened between 2010 and 2014. This is explained by a significant increase in severe material deprivation, which rose from 2.7% in 2010 to 11.6% in 2015. The composite indicator for Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth) saw a general decline, due to a fall in the annual rate of real GDP growth per worker.

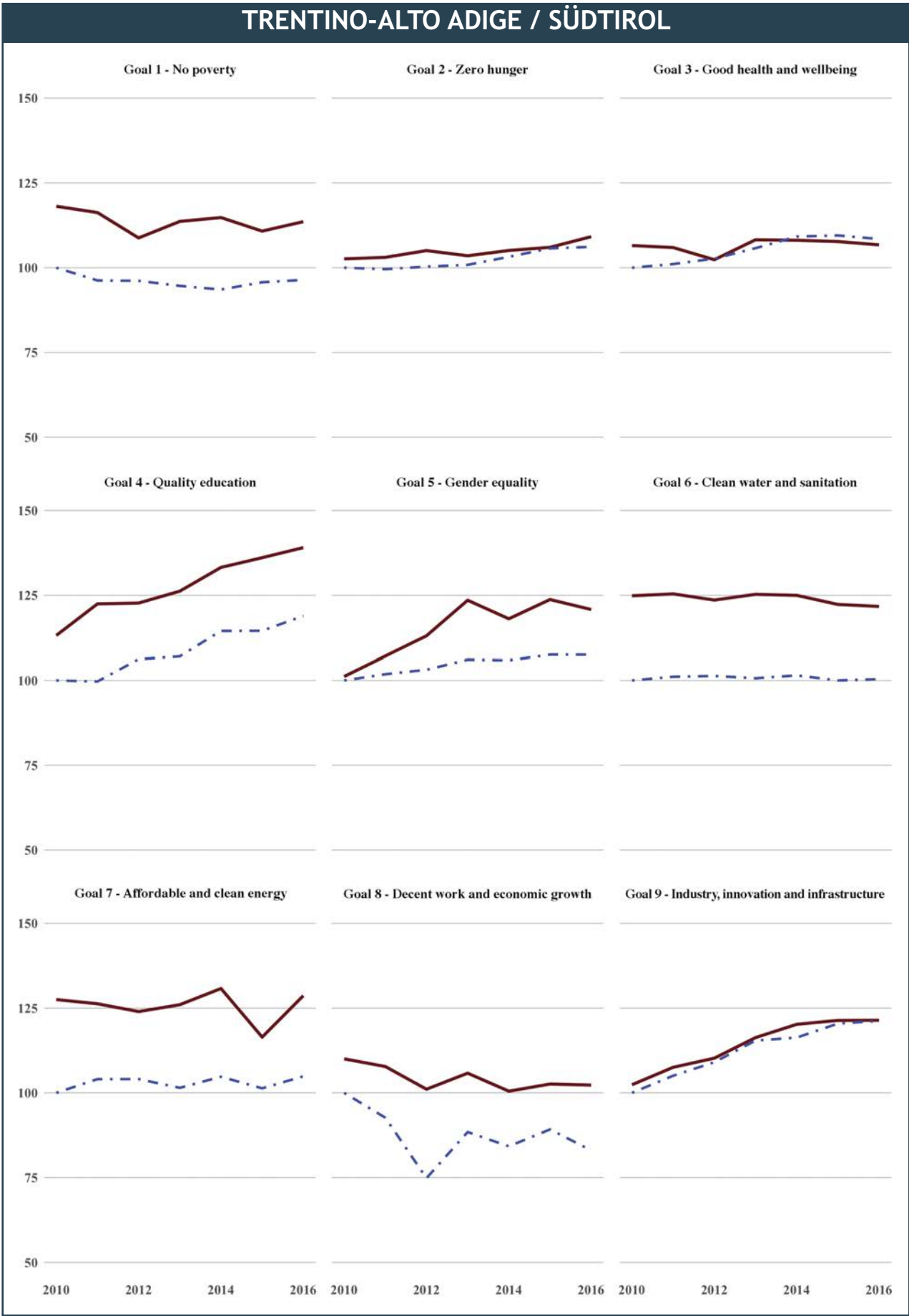


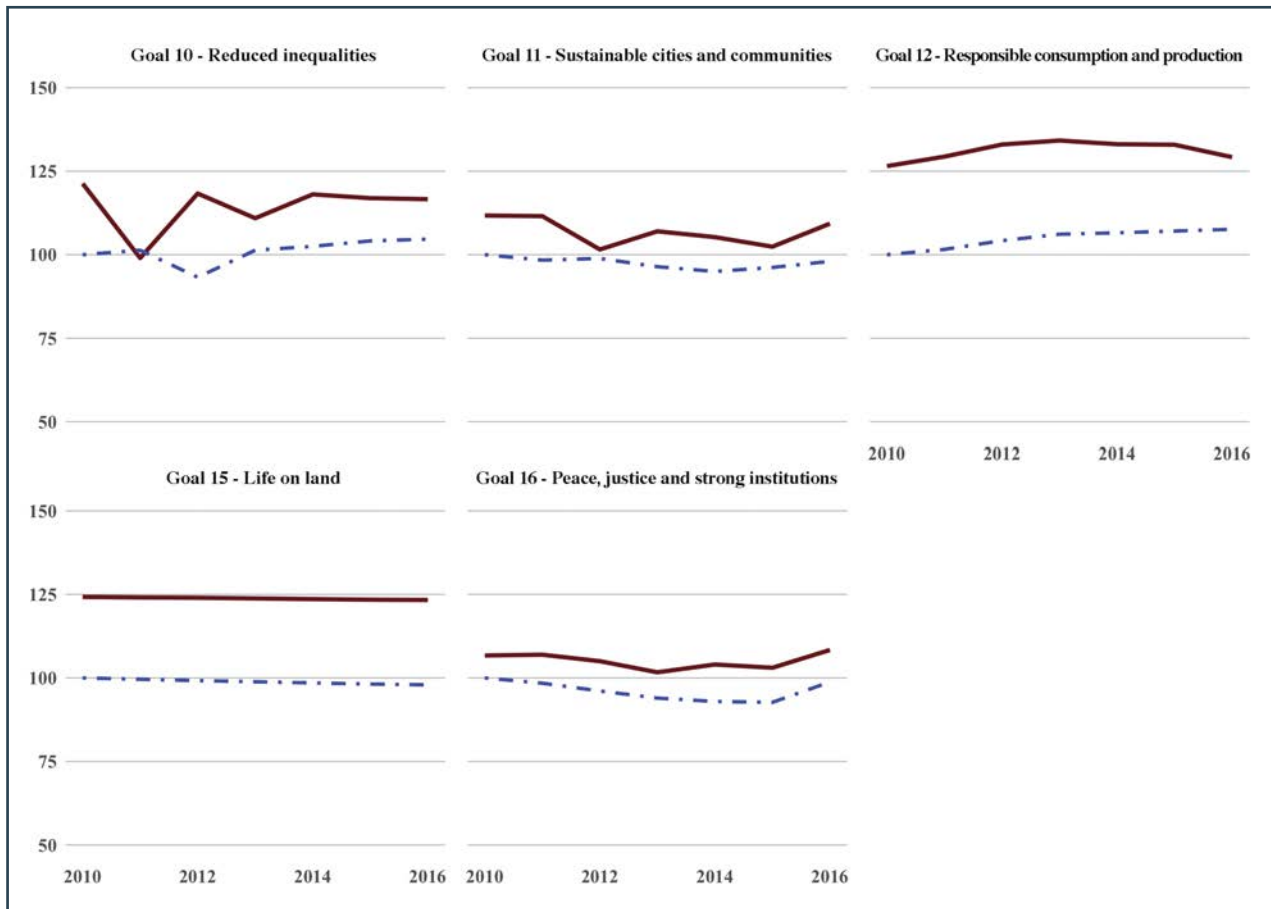


The composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production) are better than those for Italy as a whole. In terms of No poverty (Goal 1), Lombardy is considerably better off than the national average, reflecting more positive trends across almost all indicators: for example, the indicator for serious deprivation, which stands at 6% in 2016 compared with 12% in Italy, and the percentage of households living below the poverty line, which is 5% versus a national average of 11%.

The composite indicator for Goal 4 (Quality education) performed very well, reflecting a decline in early leavers from education and training, which fell from 18% in 2010 to 13% in 2016, and an increase in the proportion of 30 to 34-year olds with a university degree, which rose from 23% in 2010 to 34% in 2016 (the national figure is 27%). Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production) improved due to an increase in the percentage of urban waste recycled. The composite indicator for

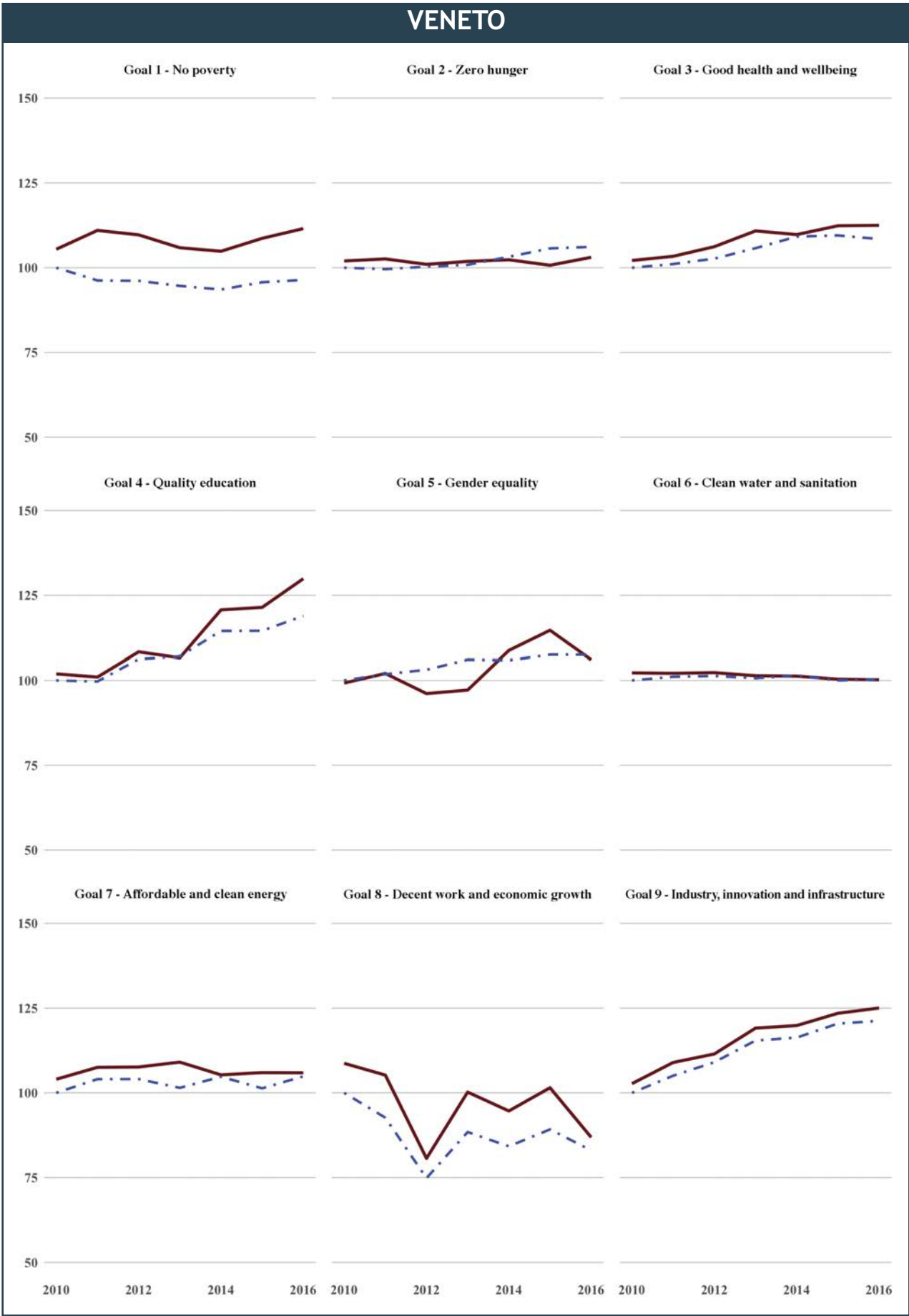
Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) also saw a considerable improvement, driven by an increase in the number of knowledge workers. In terms of Goal 15 (Life on land), Lombardy is well below the level for Italy as a whole, reflecting a degree of territorial fragmentation of 52.4% (versus the national average of 38%) and a rate of land cover of 13%, compared with a national average of 8%. A similar situation regards Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), where the lower ranking with respect to those for Italy is linked to the higher number of robberies. The composite indicator for Goal 5 (Gender equality) is very similar to the figure for Italy.

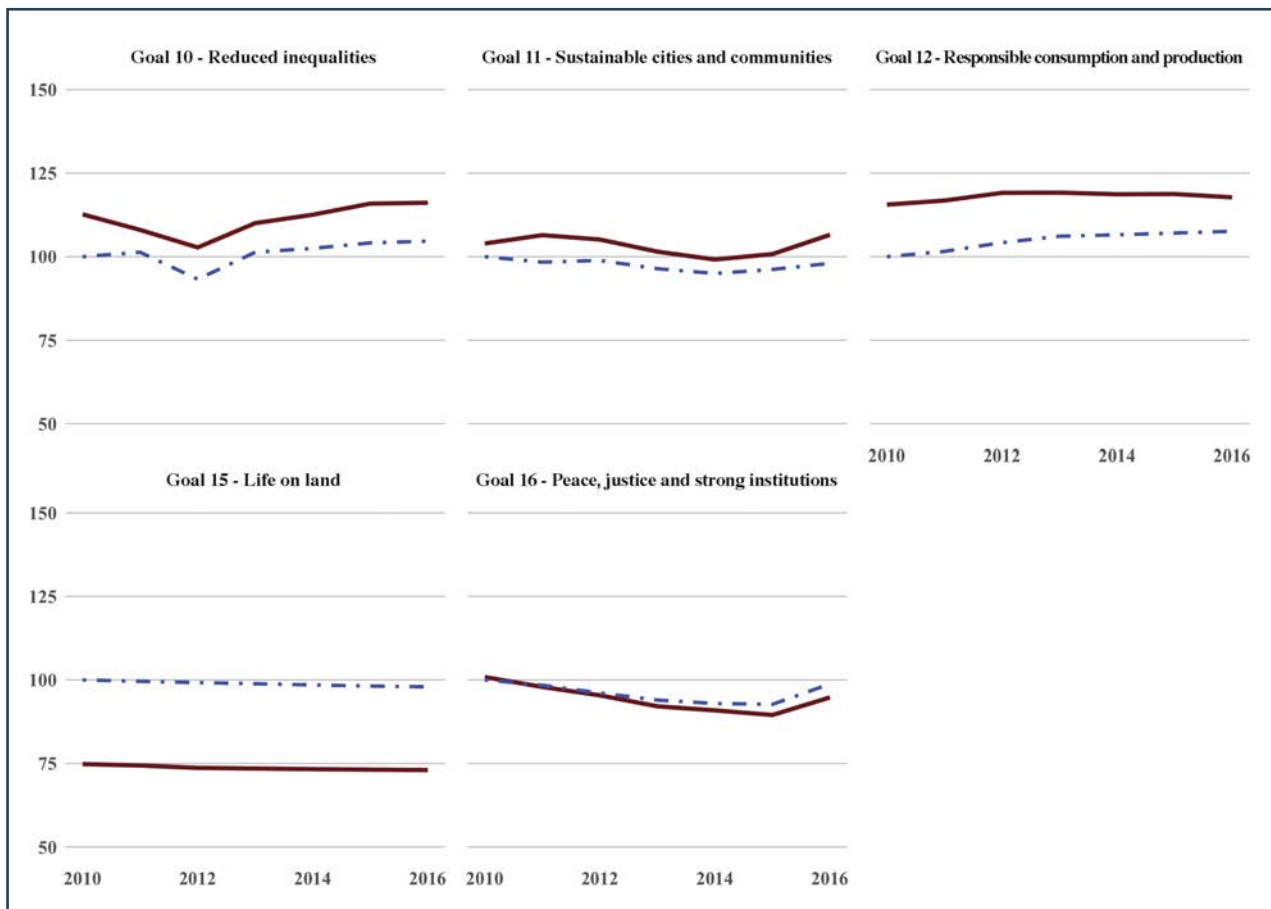




Trentino-Alto Adige is in a better position than Italy with regard to the composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). In terms of No poverty, the higher ranking relates to various indicators: for example, the indicator for households in economic difficulty stands at 4% in 2016 versus a national average of 11%. Quality education is significantly ahead due to a fall in early leavers from education and training and an increase in the proportion of 30 to 34-year olds with a university degree, whilst Gender equality has increased markedly thanks to an increase in the number of female graduates. The composite indicator for Goal 6 reflects a decline in water system efficiency, despite the figure remaining well ahead of the Italian average. The figure for Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) worsened in 2015 due to a reduction in renewable electricity consumption. Despite deteriorating overall, the indi-

cator for Goal 8 ranks the region well above the national average, primarily reflecting the unemployment rate, which in 2016 is 4% versus a national average of 11%. In terms of Reduced inequalities (Goal 10), Trentino-Alto Adige is in a better position with respect to Italy as a whole, thanks to the lower number of people living in households whose equivalent disposable income is below 60% of the median. Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production) shows an overall improvement. This is due to the promising increase in the volume of urban waste recycled, which is up from 58% in 2010 to 70% in 2016, compared with an Italian average of 52.5%. As regards Life on land, the region's excellent ranking reflects the low level of territorial fragmentation, which is 8% versus 38% for Italy. Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing) and 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) report similar trends to those at national level. Goal 9 is in line with national trends thanks to an increase in the indicator for researchers, up from 19% in 2010 to 28% in 2016.





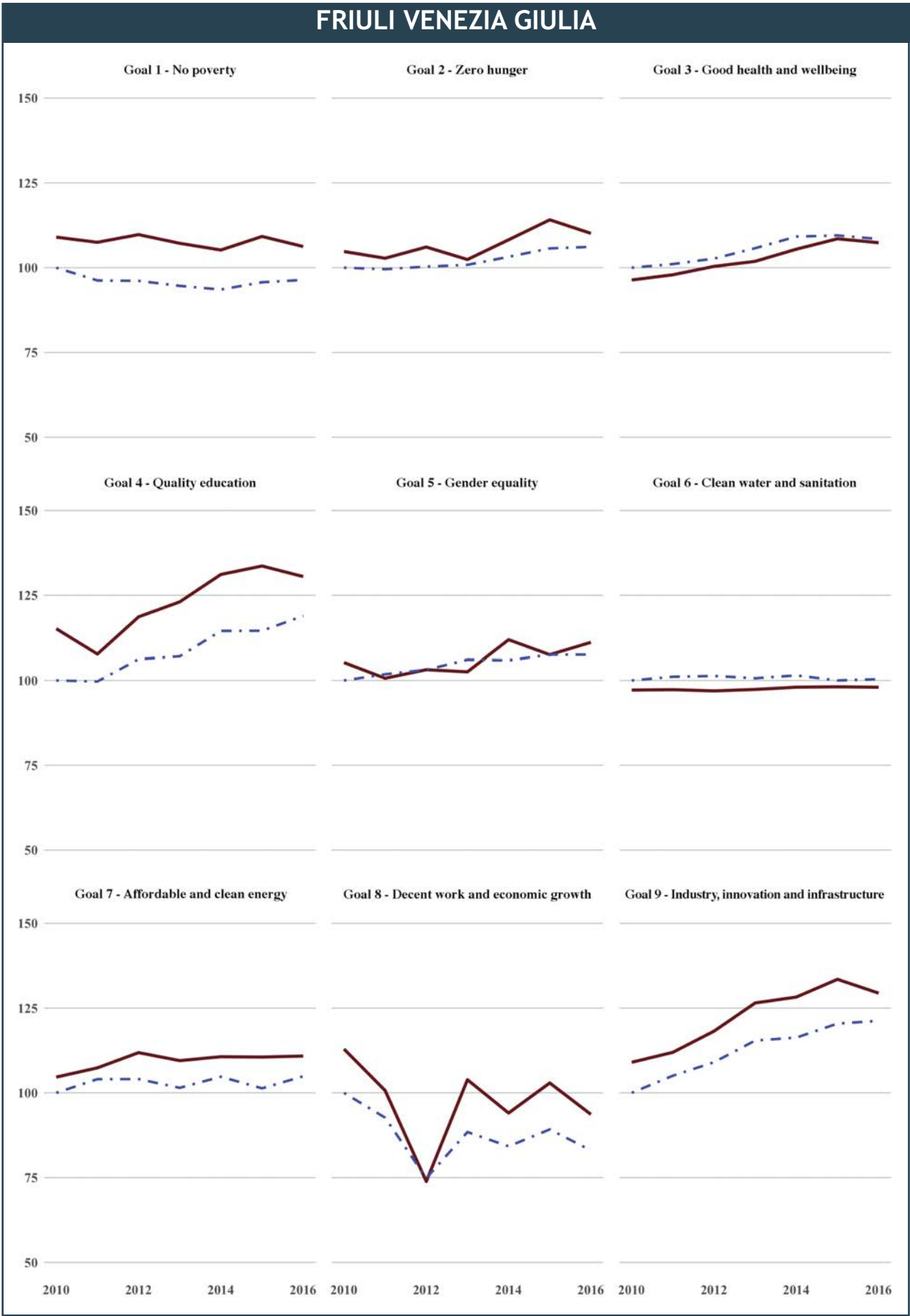
The composite indicators for the Veneto region are ahead of those for Italy as regards a significant number of Goals, such as 1 (No poverty), 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 4 (Quality education), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production).

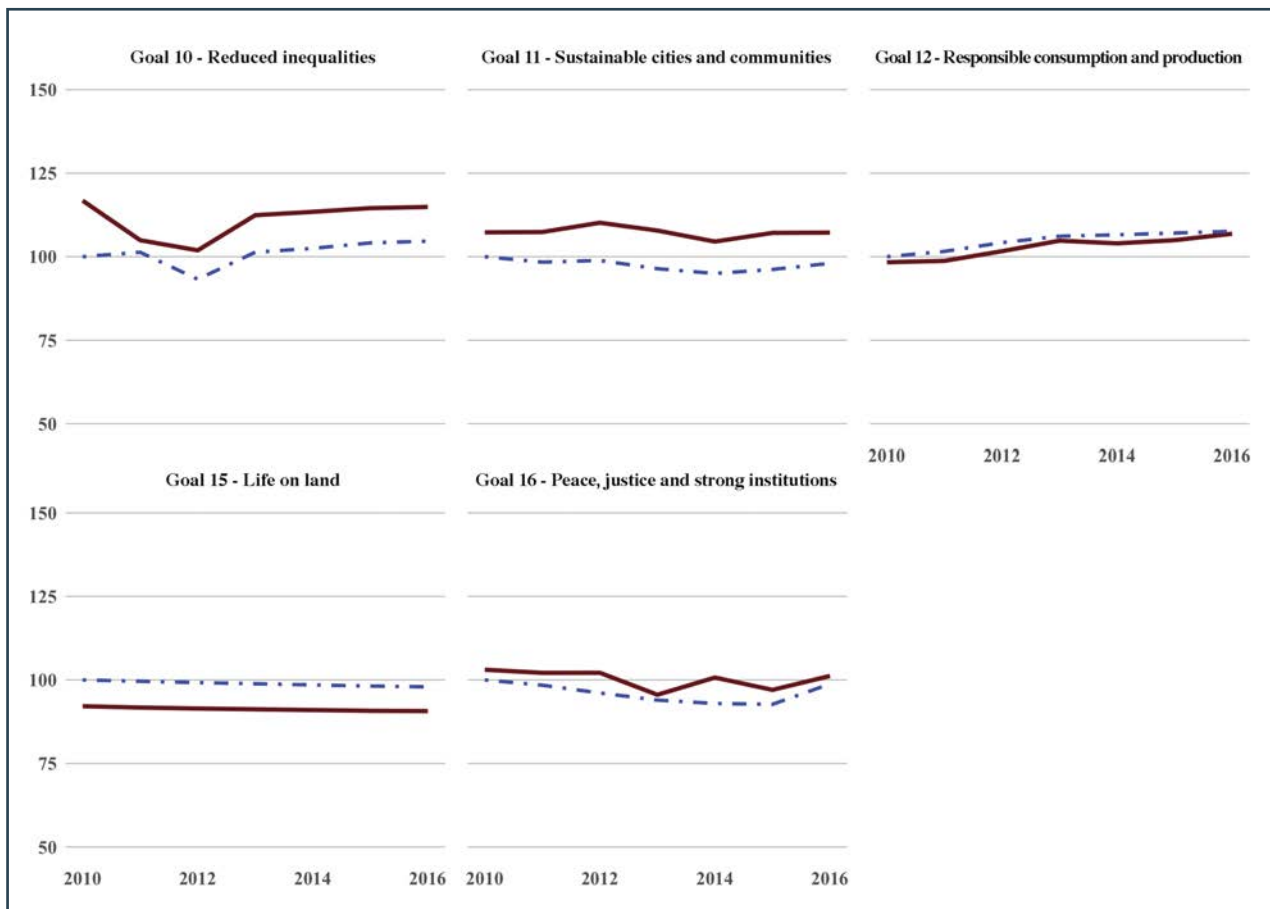
In particular, Goal 1 (No poverty) is higher than Italy after marked progress between 2014 and 2016. This reflects a notable improvement in the indicator for households in economic difficulty, which stood at 3.9% in 2016 compared with an Italian average of 10.9%, and a sharp fall in 2016 in the number of people living in a dwelling with housing problems. The indicator for Quality education (Goal 4) is much higher than the national average, driven by a greater degree of participation in education and training and a far lower number of early leavers from education and training compared with the Italian average (6.9% versus a national average of 13.8%). On the issue of Decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), Veneto ranks higher than Italy as a whole, even if the region recorded a faster rate of decline in the last year

compared with the country as a whole. This was due to a fall in the annual rate of real GDP growth per worker. Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) saw a major improvement in the last year, reflecting the improved quality of housing and an improvement in local public transport.

The composite indicators for Goal 2 (Zero hunger), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) place Veneto below the national average. In particular, Goal 15 ranks below the national average, due to a higher rate of land cover (12.3% versus a national average of 7.6%) and territorial fragmentation (57% versus 38%).

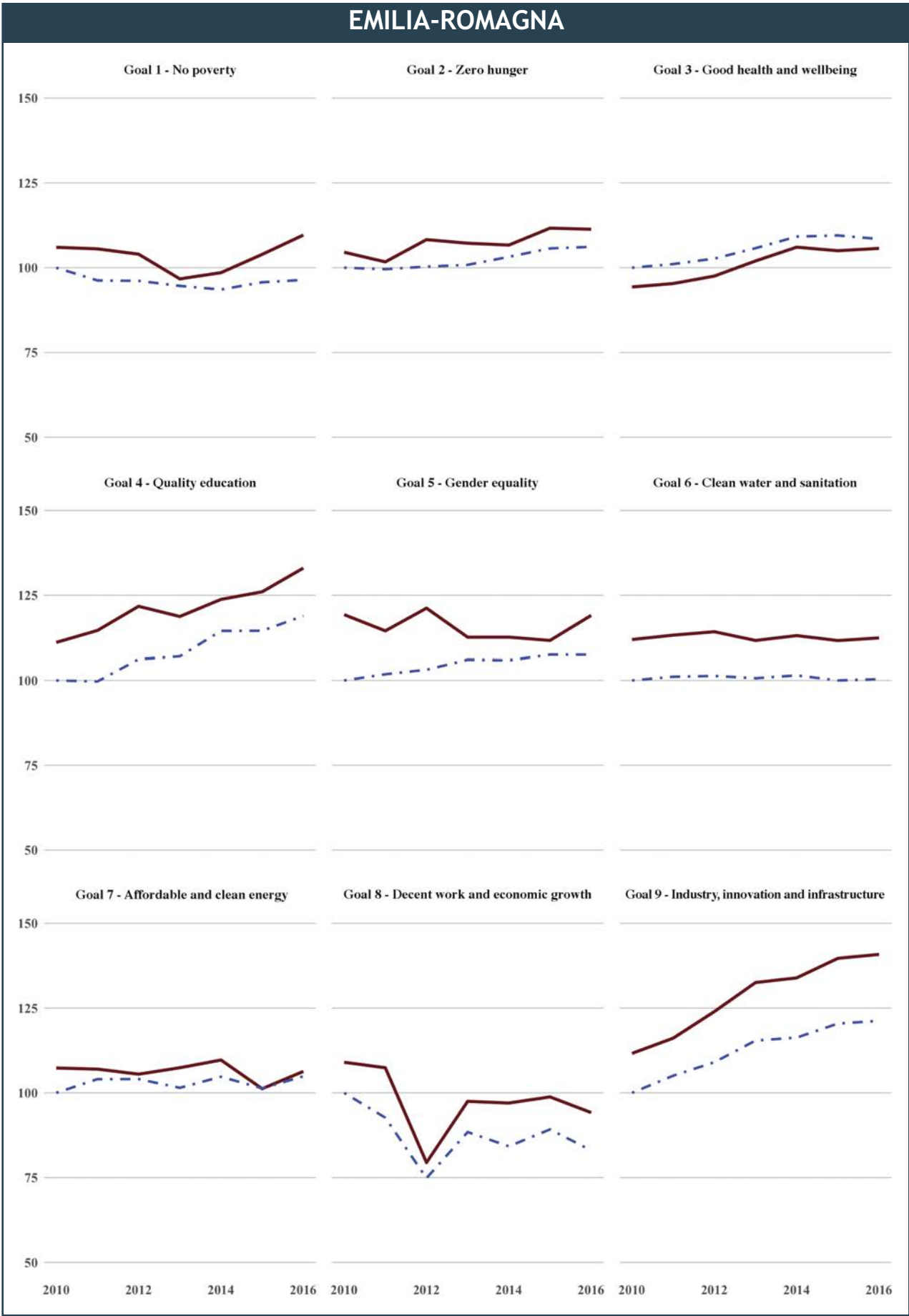
Despite indicators that diverge from the national average, indicators for Goal 5 (Gender equality) and Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) place the region on a par with the national average in 2016.

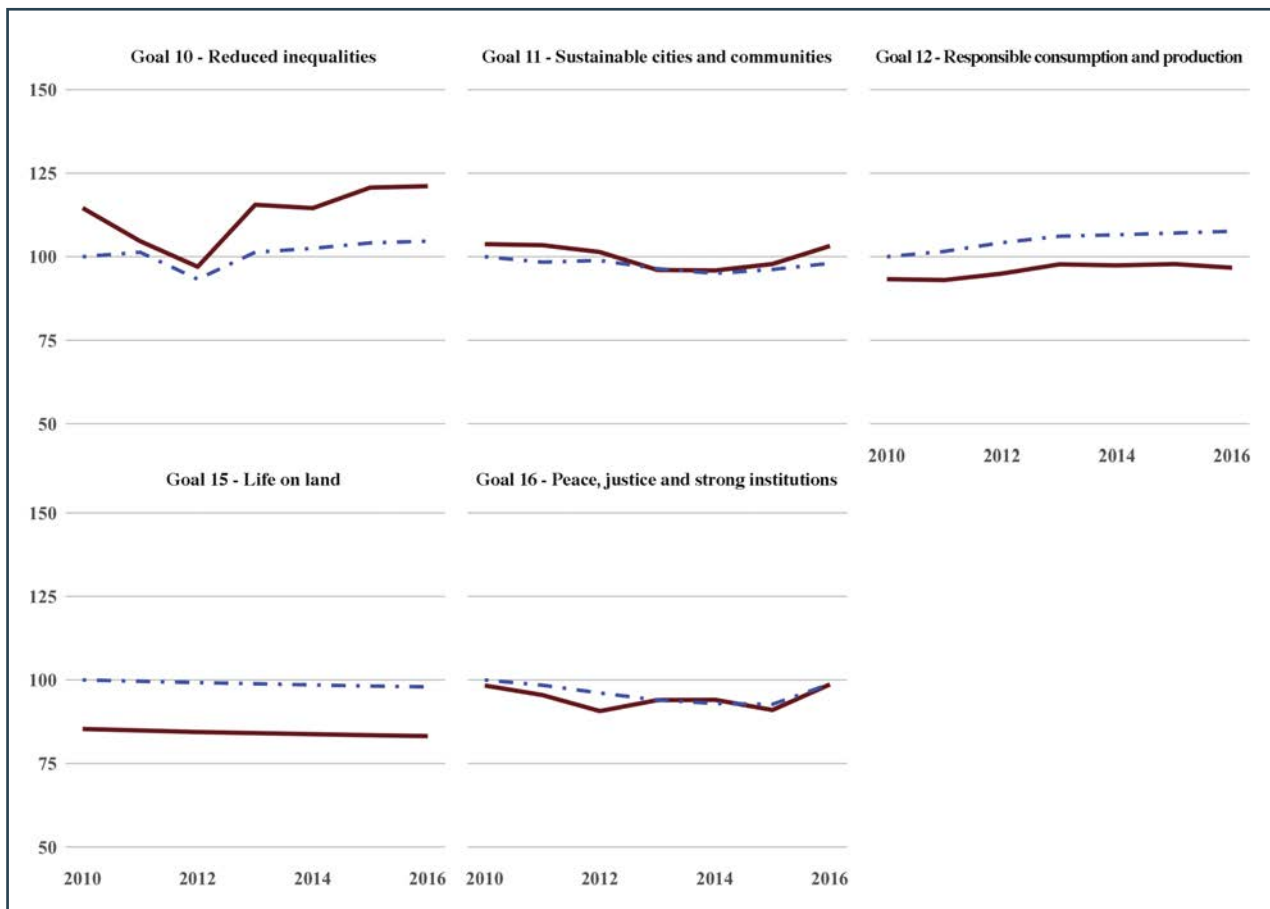




The composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) show that Friuli-Venezia-Giulia is in a better position with respect to Italy as a whole. The indicators for Goals 2, 4 and 8 diverge from those at national level: Goal 2 improved until 2015, reflecting a reduction in the number of overweight adults, down from 48% in 2010 to 40% in 2015, before falling into line with the national average (45%). Quality education worsened significantly in the initial two years of the period under observation, due to an increase in early leavers from education and training; from 2011, the indicator then rose due to an increase in the number of people between 25 and 64 who had at least completed secondary school (in 2016, 67% compared with a national average of 60%). There was a sharp fall in Goal 8 in the first three years, reflecting a decline in the annual rate of real GDP growth per worker. From 2012, the indicator improved at a faster rate compared with Italy due to an improvement in the annual rate of real GDP growth

per inhabitant and in the rate of non-participation in the labour market (in 2016, 14% versus a national average of 22%). In terms of Goal 1 (No poverty), the region ranks above Italy, thanks to the low level of severe material deprivation, which in 2016 stood at 6% compared with a national average of 12%. With regard to water (Goal 6), the regions performed worse than Italy due to the reduced efficiency of its drinking water distribution. Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 5 (Gender equality), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) performed in line with Italy as a whole. Goal 3 improved over the period due to a reduction in the mortality rate for the most common causes of death between the ages of 30 and 69. The indicator for Goal 12 shows an overall improvement due to a reduction in the amount of urban waste produced. Finally, the composite indicator for Goal 15 (Life on land) ranks the region below Italy as a whole, due to the degree of territorial fragmentation, amounting to 44.3% compared with a national average of 38%.



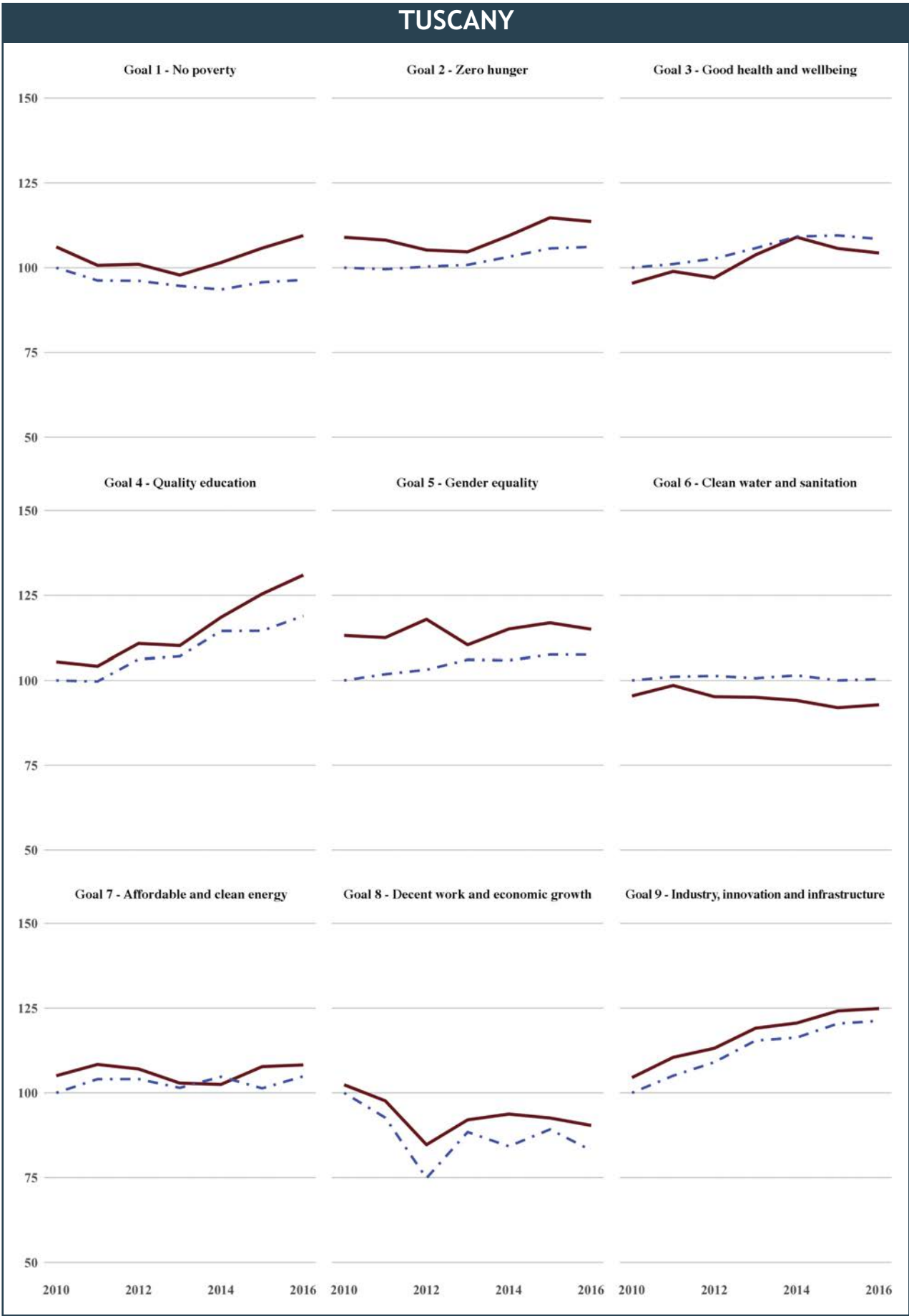


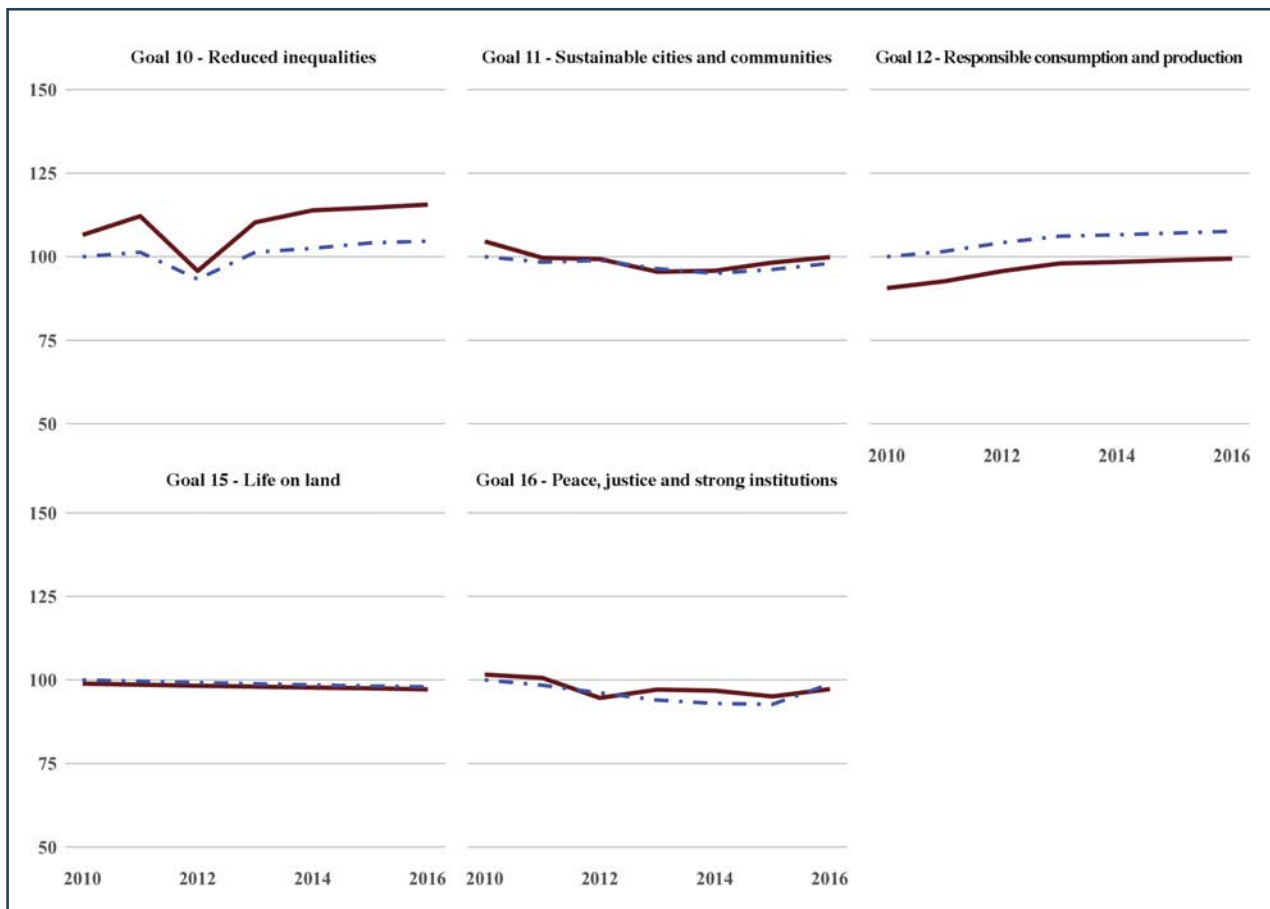
The situation in Emilia-Romagna in 2010 with regard to the composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and 10 (Reduced inequalities) is better than the situation in Italy as a whole. In particular, trends in Goal 1, 5 and 10 differ from those at national level. Despite starting out from a better position with regard to Italy in 2010, the situation regarding Goal 1 (No poverty) initially worsened. This was followed, from 2013, by a major improvement driven by a reduction in the housing cost overburden rate and by a marked improvement in the proportion of households in economic difficulty, which in 2016 stands at 5.6% compared with an Italian average of 10.9%. Goal 5 (Gender equality) on the whole declined until 2015, before a significant reversal in this trend in the last year, when it returns to the levels seen in 2010, following a major improvement in women's life expectancy and in the rate of women in the workforce. Reduced inequalities (Goal 10) showed major improvement between 2012 and 2015, thanks to an increase in the rate of growth

in per capita household income among the poorest 40% of the population.

Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 15 (Life on land) are below the Italian average. Looking at the trends, Goal 3 is very much in line with national trends, whilst the trend for Goal 12 shows growth that is slower than at national level, primarily due to the high volume of urban waste produced, only partially offset by a far higher proportion of waste recycled (60.7%) compared with the national average (52.5%). The indicator for Goal 15 was sharply down and stands at a far lower level than Italy, reflecting a higher degree of territorial fragmentation (52.3%) compared with the national average (38%).

Goals 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) performed very much in line with the national averages, with the situations remaining unchanged overall. Goal 11 improved in the last year at a faster rate than in Italy as a whole, reflecting a notable improvement in the quality of housing.



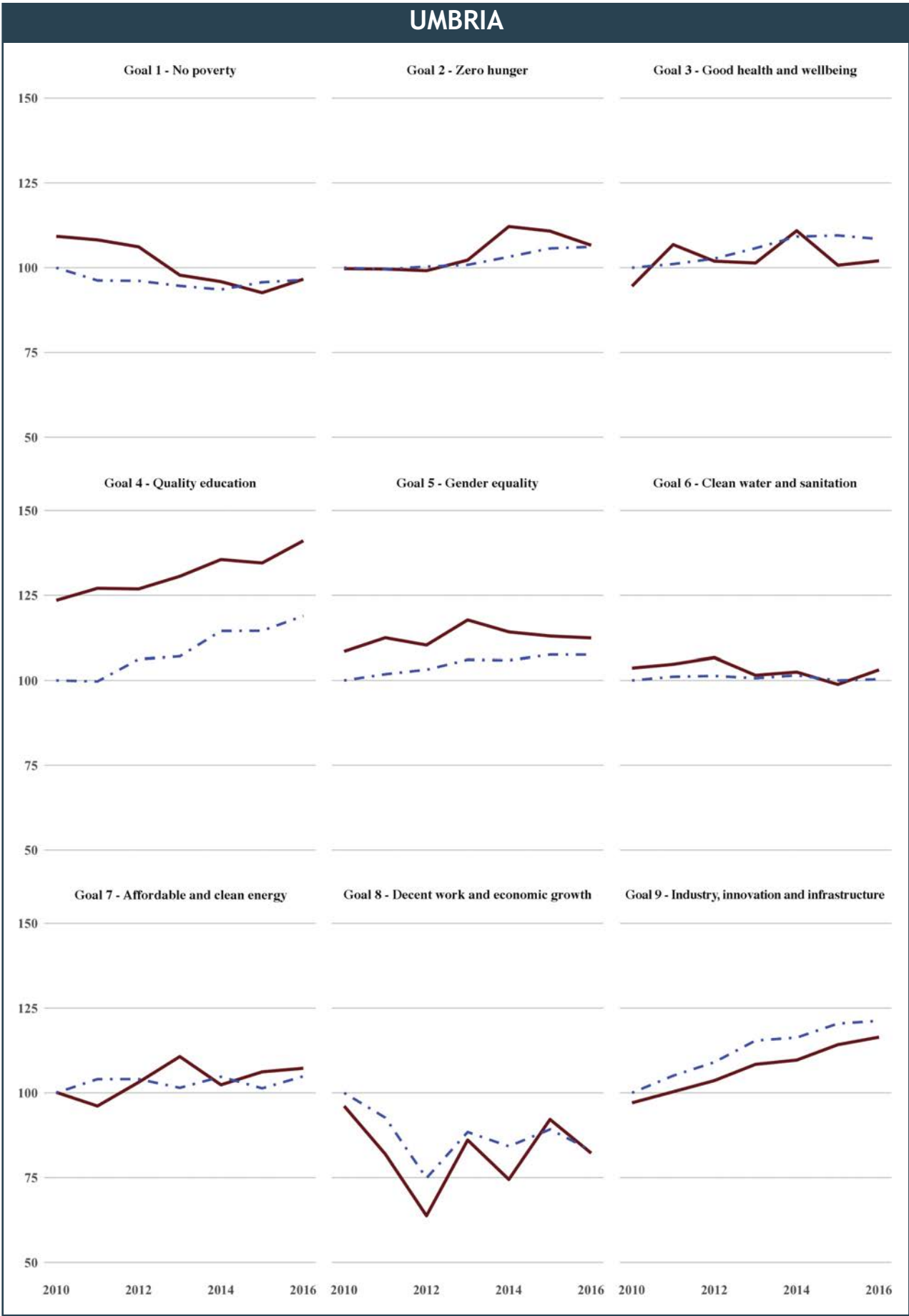


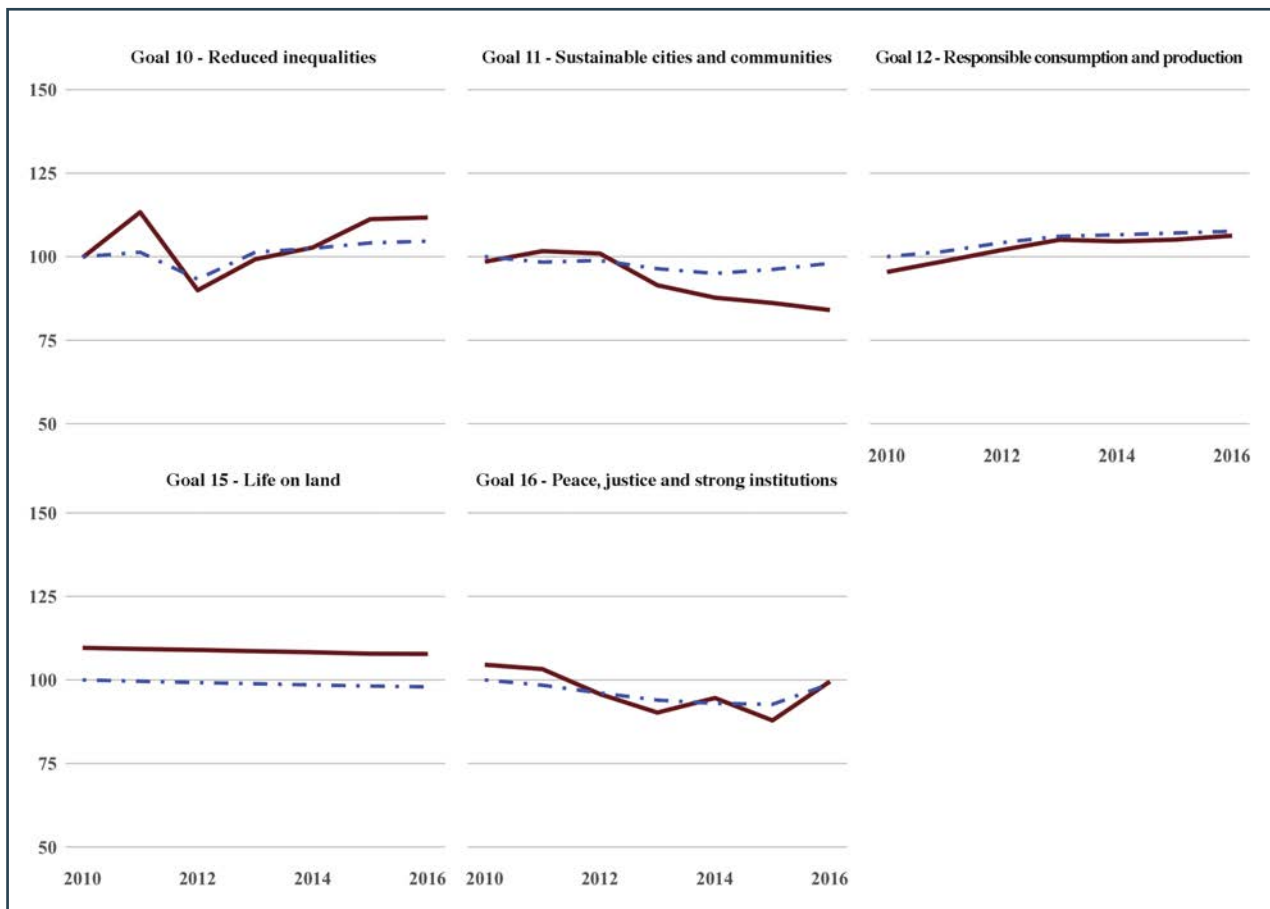
The situation in Tuscany in 2010 with regard to the composite indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities) is better than the situation in Italy as a whole. From 2013, Goal 1 (No poverty) saw a major improvement due to the lower percentage of people living in a dwelling with housing problems and a notable improvement in the figure for households in economic difficulty, which in 2016 stands at 6.6% versus an Italian average of 10.9%. In terms of Quality education (Goal 4), Tuscany also performed better than the national average, driven by a reduction in the number of early leavers from education and training (10.9% in 2016 versus a national average of 14%) and an increase in the number of people at least completing secondary school. In terms of Gender equality (Goal 5), the performance was positive overall, but with a deterioration in the last year due to a reduction in the ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children. Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) improved in

the last years thanks to the high level of renewable electricity consumption.

The situation is below the national average in terms of Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 6 (Clean water and sanitation) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production). On the issue of health (Goal 3), the deterioration in the last two years is due to an increase in injuries resulting from road traffic accidents. Goal 12 is in line with the Italian average, although the level achieved by the region is lower due to the greater volume of urban waste produced, which in 2016 amounts to 616 tonnes per year versus an Italian average of 497.

The situation in Tuscany with regard to Goals 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 15 (Life on land), 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) is on a par with Italy. Goal 11 performed slightly better than the national average thanks to an improvement in the quality of housing and an overall decline in illegal building.



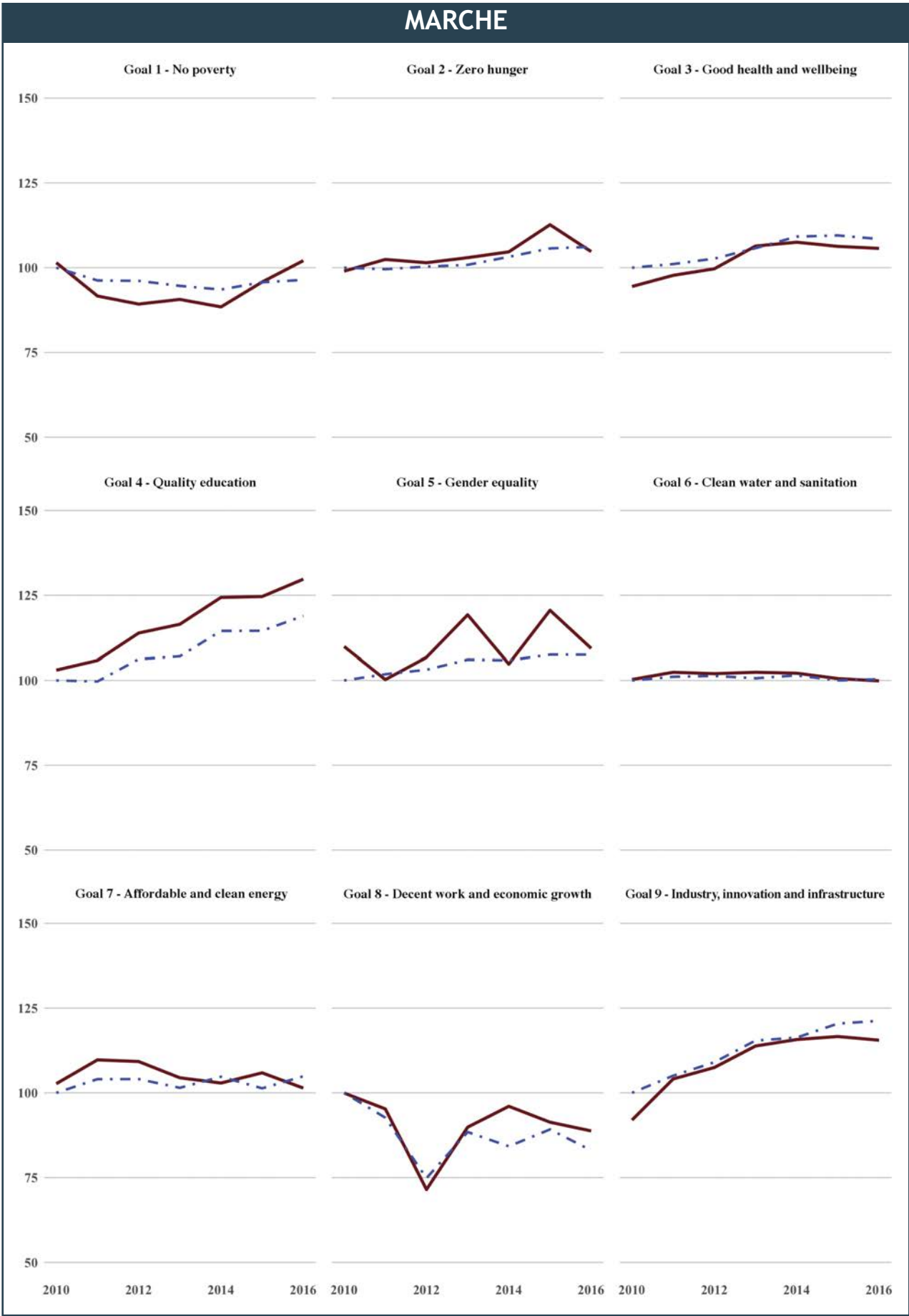


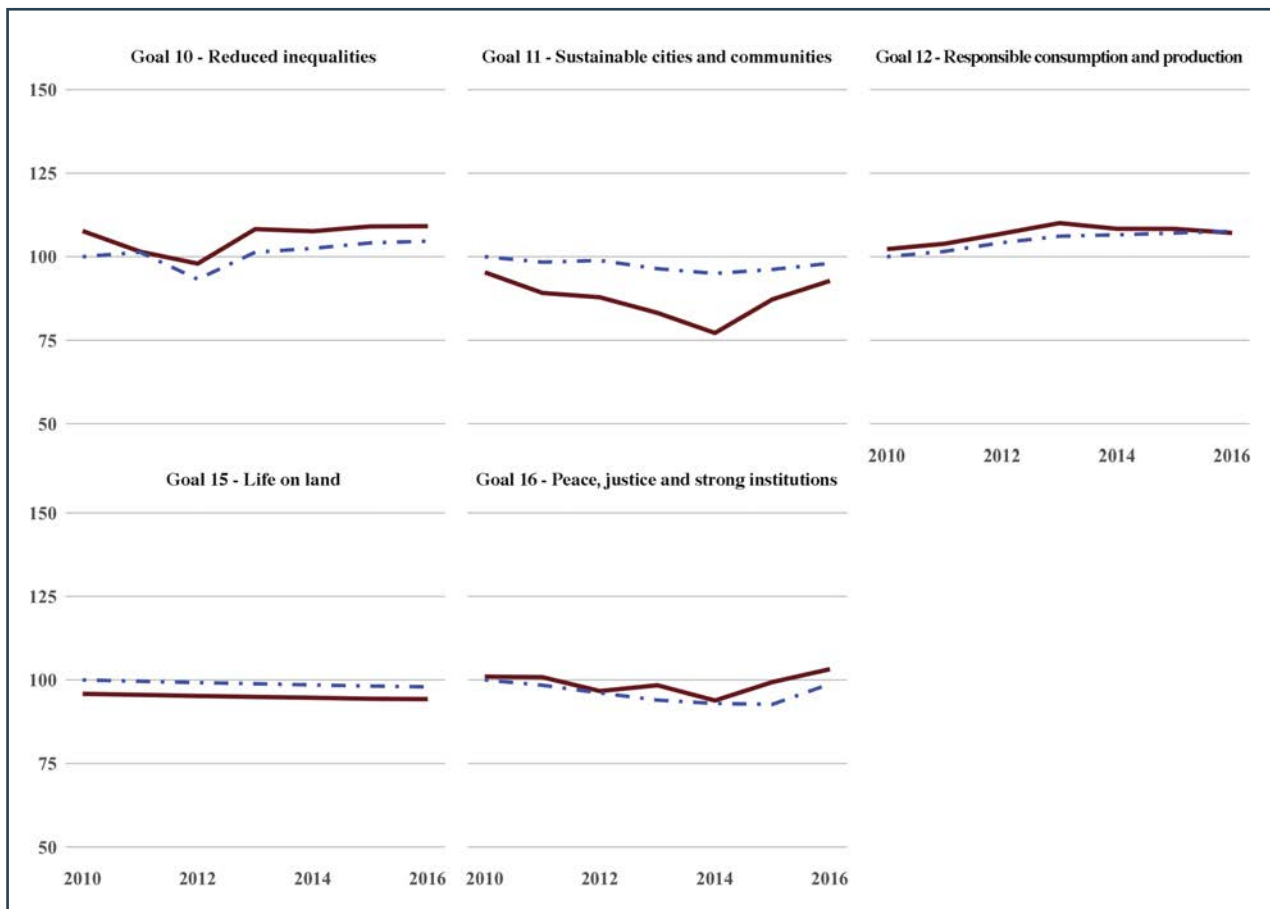
The situation in Umbria in 2010 with regard to the composite indicators for Goals 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 10 (Reduced inequalities) and 15 (Life on land) is better than the situation in Italy as a whole. In terms of education (Goal 4), Umbria is on a par with the national average, after a greater degree of improvement in the final year thanks to increased participation in education and training. In terms of Goal 5 (Gender equality), the region is ahead of the national average, but, in contrast to Italy, saw a decline in the last two years, reflecting falls in the ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children and in healthy life expectancy for women at birth. The indicator for Goal 7 is slightly higher in the last year compared with the national average, thanks to increased satisfaction with the continuity of the electricity service and greater use of renewable energy. The position regarding Reduced inequalities (Goal 10) improved in the region due to increases in per capita household income among the poorest 40% of the population and in average disposable income. In terms of Goal 15 (Life on land), Umbria

has lost ground, although the indicator is still ahead of the Italian average.

The indicators for Goals 3 (Good health and well-being), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) rank Umbria below the national average. Goal 3 was further away from the Italian average from 2015, reflecting sharp increases in infant mortality and in fatalities resulting from road traffic accidents, the latter declining in 2016. Goal 8 was on a negative trajectory overall, driven by a reduction in annual real GDP growth and by increases in the jobless rate and in youth unemployment in 2016. In terms of Goal 11, the region saw a significant deterioration due to a decline in the quality of housing.

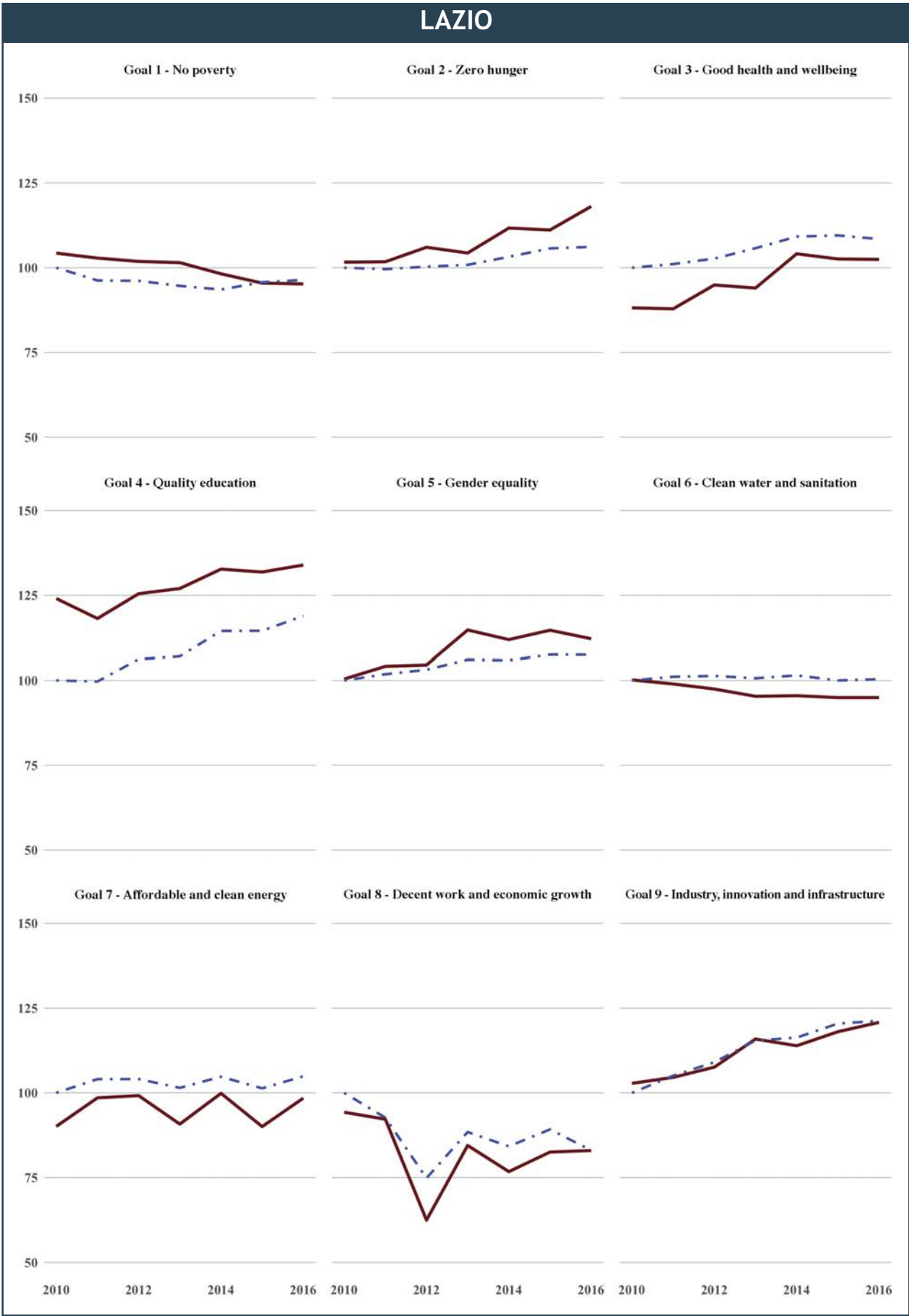
The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) put Umbria at a level that is on a par with the national average in 2016.

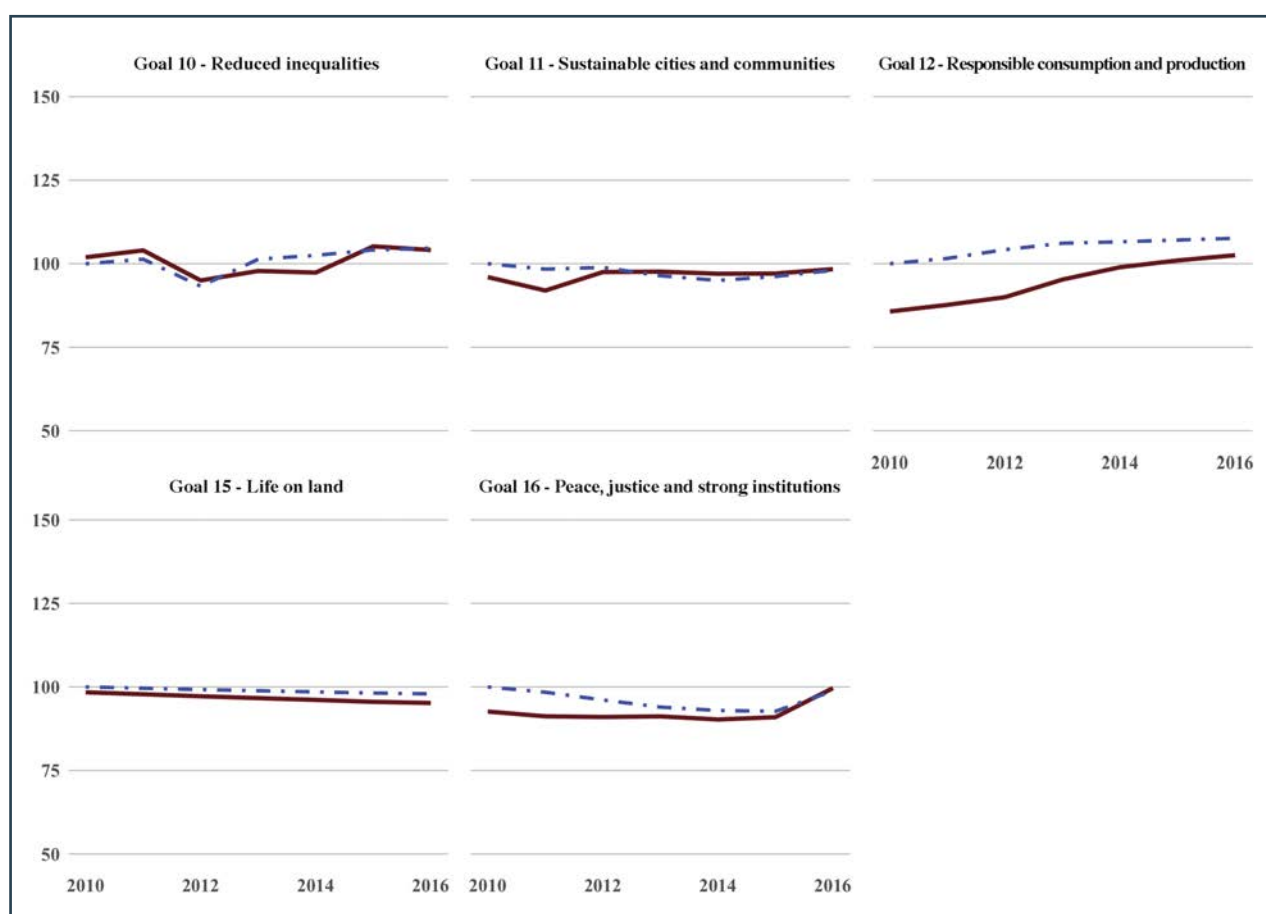




The indicators for Goals 4 (Quality education) and 10 (Reduced inequalities) rank the Marche region ahead of Italy as a whole. The composite indicator for Quality education (Goal 4) has improved due to an increase in the proportion of university graduates between the ages of 30 and 34, up from 25% in 2010 to 32% in 2016. The indicator for Goal 10 has followed a similar trend to the national performance, but the absolute figure is higher thanks to the low proportion of households with disposable income less than 60% of median income (16% in 2016 compared with a national average of 20%). The composite indicator for Goal 1 (No poverty) deteriorated until 2014, after which it improved to align itself with the national average. This reflected a marked reduction in households in economic difficulty, which fell from 13% in 2014 to 7% in 2016. Goal 2 (Zero hunger) followed a similar trend to the national indicator, apart from an increase in 2015 due to a reduction in overweight adults, which in 2016 is in line with the Italian average. The composite indicator for Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) performed rather badly due to a loss of efficiency in the drinking water distribution system.

The indicators for Goal 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) and 15 (Life on land) rank the region below the Italian average. Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) worsened until 2014, due to increases in the number of poor-quality dwellings and in overcrowded housing. The composite indicator for Goal 15 (Life on land) puts Marche below Italy, reflecting a high degree of territorial fragmentation at regional level (in 2016, 46% compared with a national average of 38%). In terms of Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing), the region improved until 2013, after which the indicator stabilised below the Italian average due to an increase in people exposed to at least one of the risks linked to alcohol consumption (this indicator rose from 15% in 2010 to 20% in 2016). Goals 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) performed very much in line with national trends.



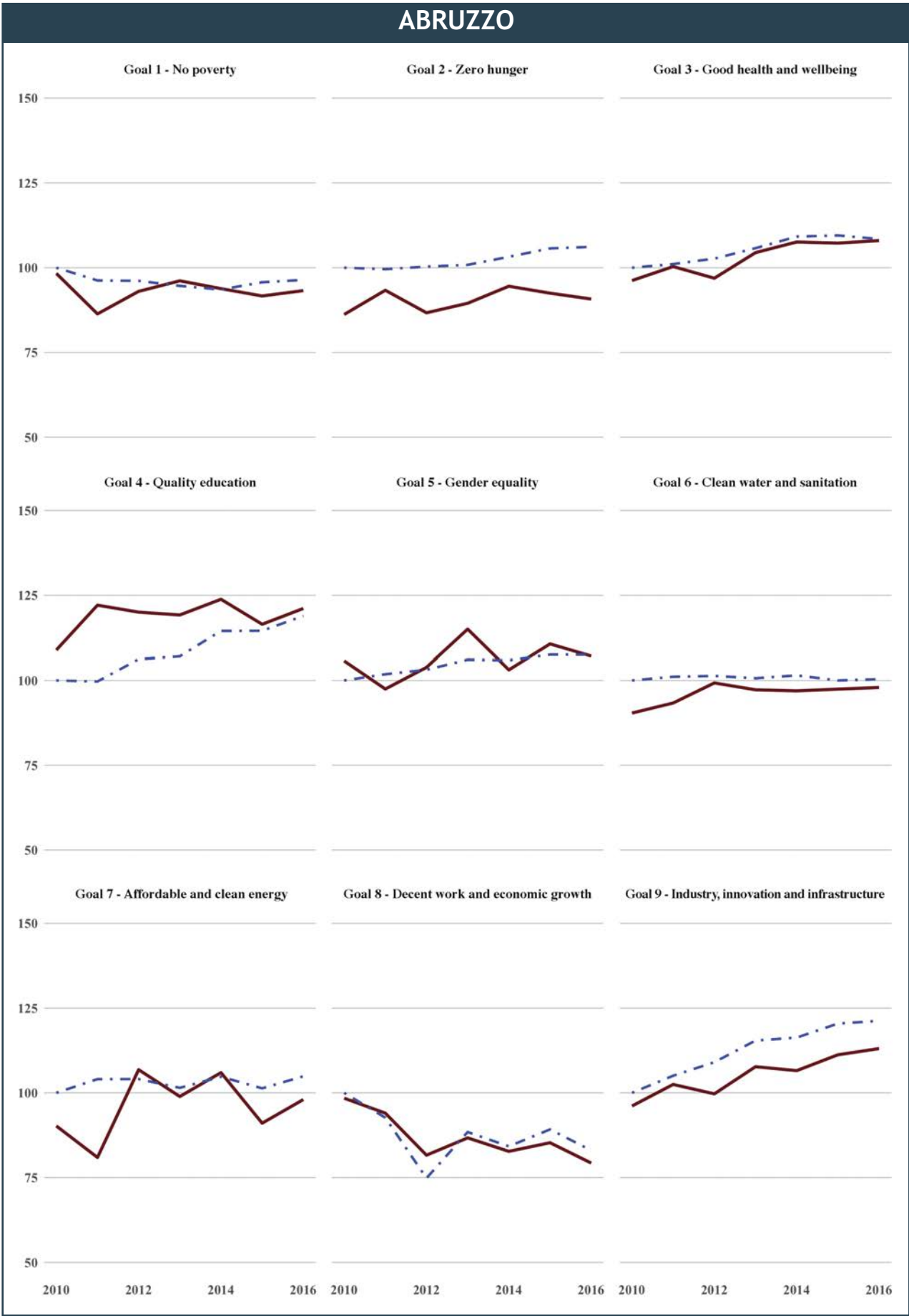


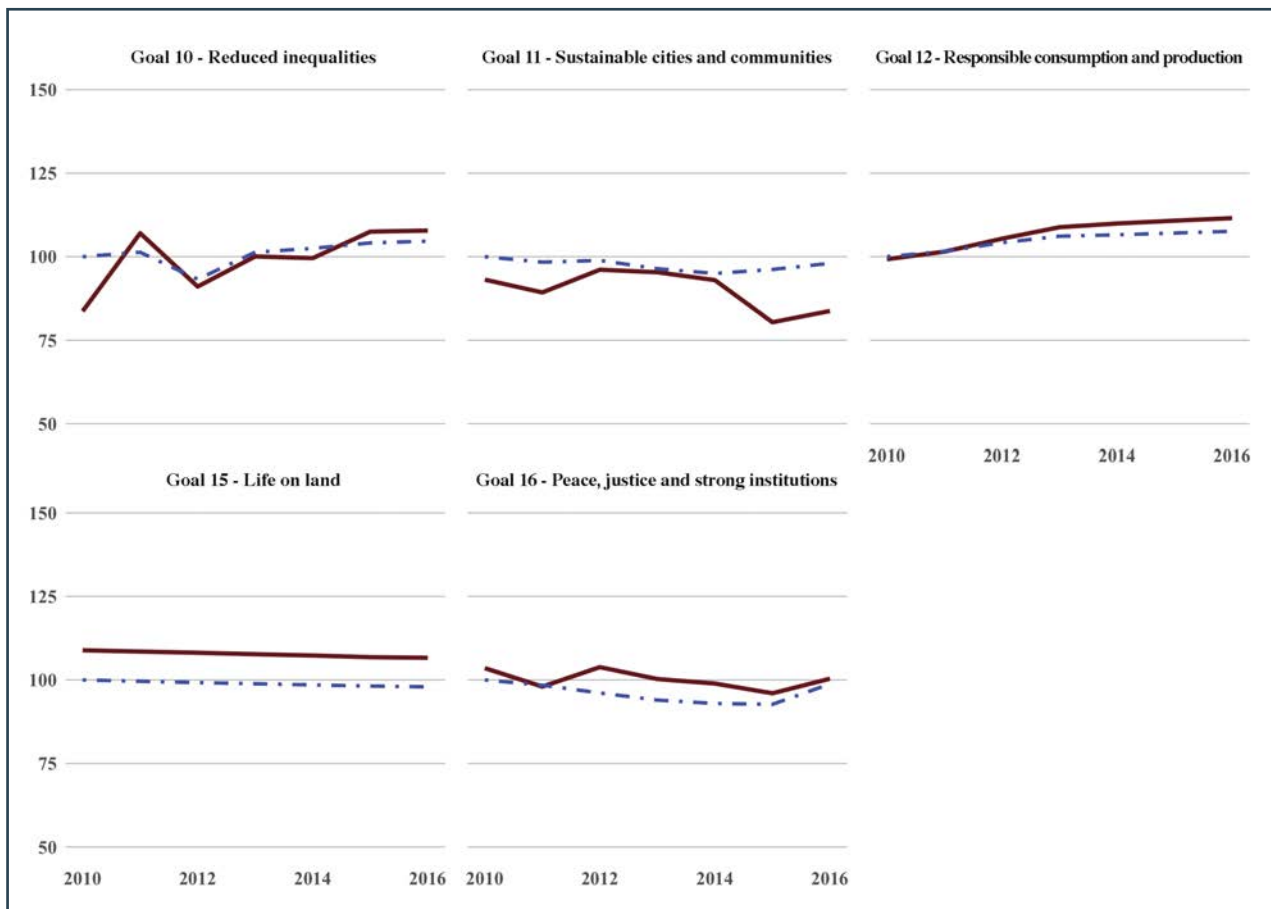
The composite indicators for Goals 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education) and 5 (Gender equality) put Lazio in a better position than Italy. Goal 2 shows improvement driven by an increase in the rate of agricultural land under organic cultivation. In terms of education (Goal 4), the performance is similar to the Italian average, but with a higher ranking due to the lower rate of early leavers from education and training. Goal 5 is higher than the national average, though year-by-year declines reflect changes in the ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children and in the number of women university graduates.

The indicators for Goals 3 (Good health and well-being), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 15 (Life on land) are below those for Italy as a whole. In terms of health (Goal 3), whilst the situation has improved, the region has higher levels of mortality and a higher rate of injuries resulting from road traffic accidents. The situation regarding Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) is negative, due to a significant deterioration in the efficiency of water net-

works. Despite being below the Italian ranking, the regional indicator for Goal 12 has greatly improved compared with the national average, due to an increase in the volume of urban waste recycled. In terms of Goal 15 (Life on land), the region underperforms the average for Italy as a whole, reflecting increases in both land use and territorial fragmentation.

The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) put Lazio on a par with Italy. The deterioration in the later years in Goal 1 was primarily caused by increases in households living below the poverty line, in the rate of severe material deprivation and in the housing cost overburden rate. Goal 8, on the other hand, improved in 2016, in contrast to the country as a whole, reflecting an increase in annual real GDP growth per worker.

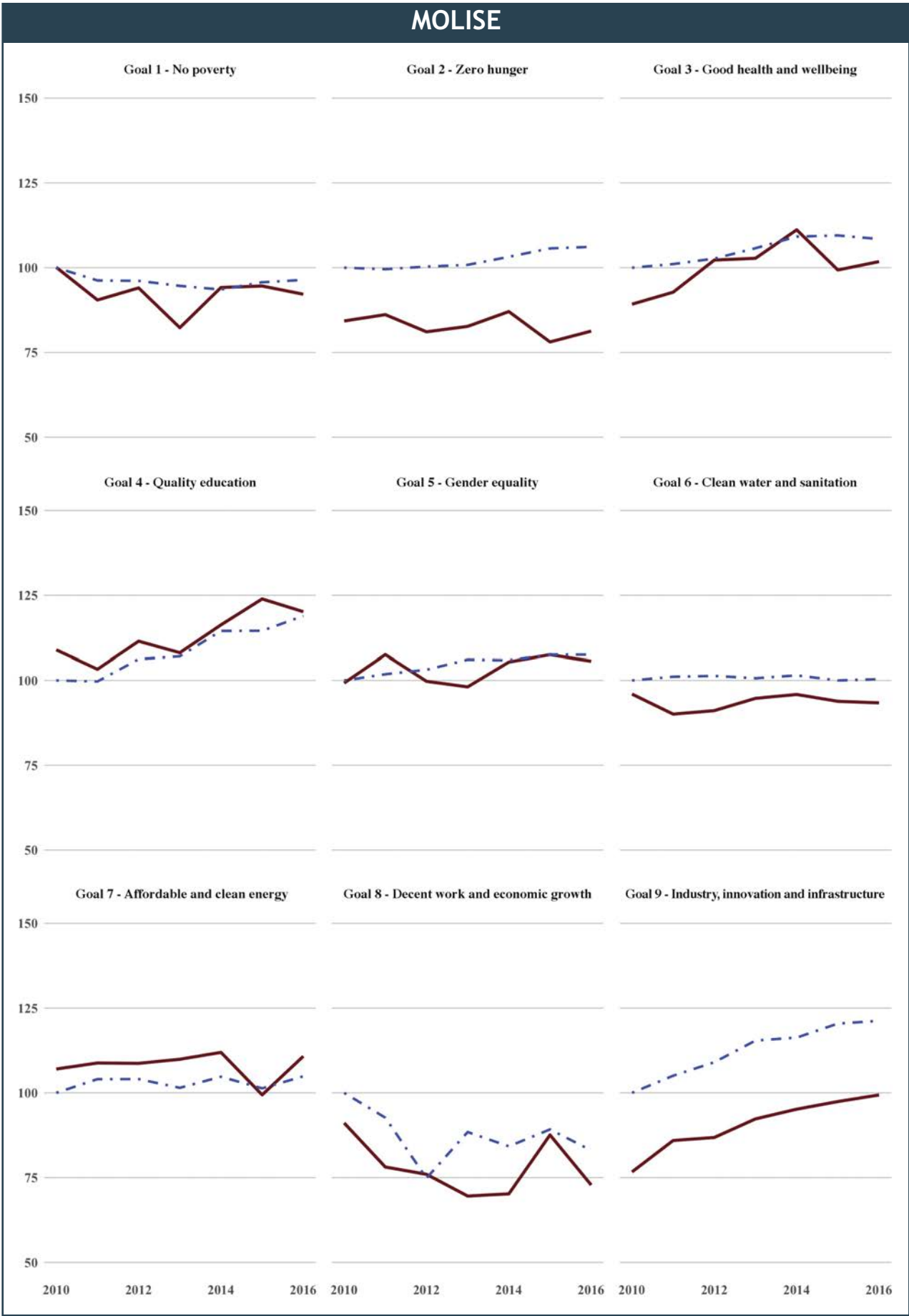


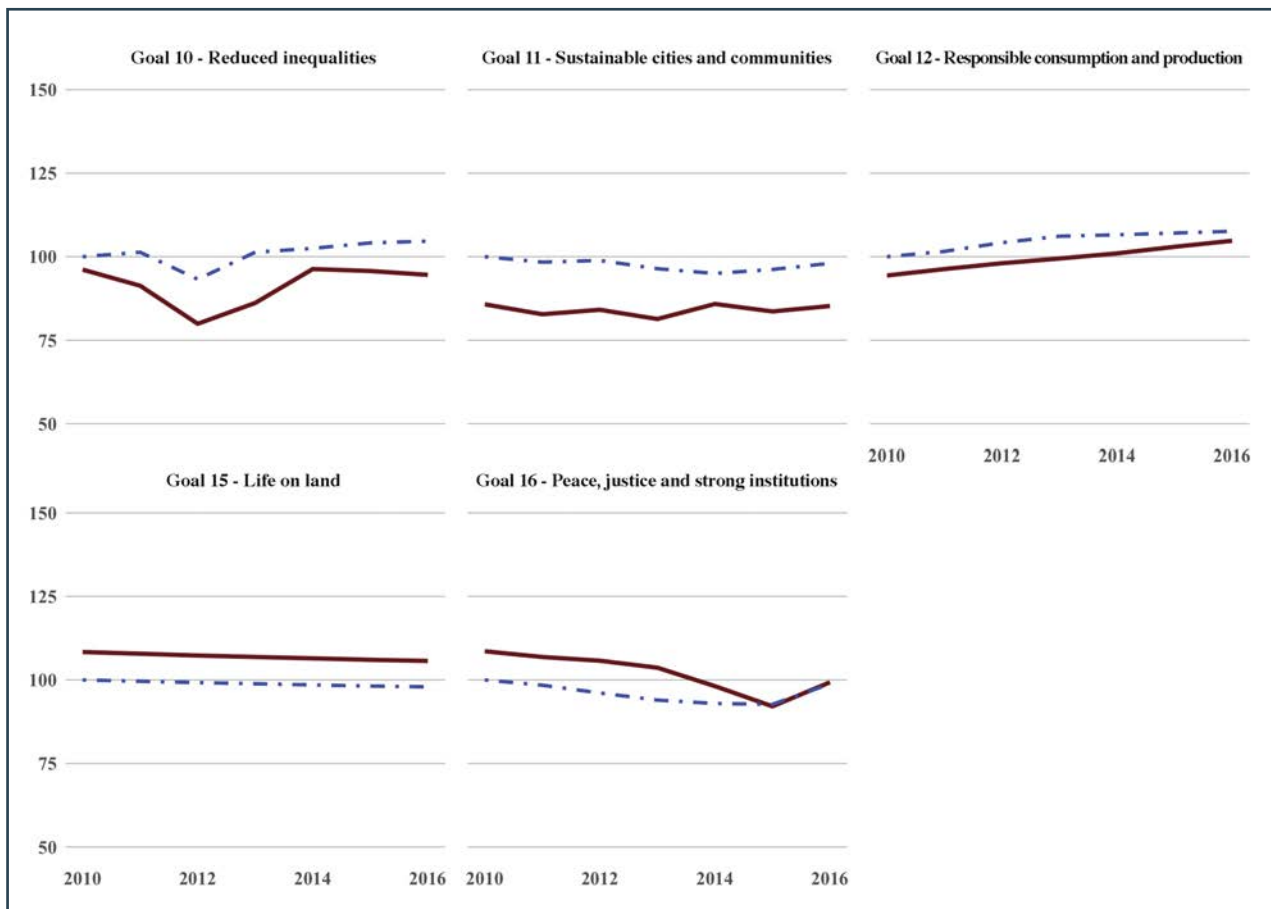


The composite indicators for Goals 4 (Quality education), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 15 (Life on land) put Abruzzo in a better position than Italy. There was an initial fall and later recovery in Goal 4 in the period 2014-2016, linked to changes in the number of early leavers from education and training. In terms of Reduced inequalities (Goal 10), the region is ahead of the national average, thanks to a faster increase in per capita household income among the poorest 40% of the population. The indicator for Goal 12 improved at a faster rate than the figure for Italy due to the reduced volume of urban waste produced. The indicator for Goal 15 followed the same trend over time, but is higher than the national average.

The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities) are below those for Italy as a whole. Goal 1 comes in below the national average in 2016, despite an improvement in the indicator for households in economic difficulty. In contrast to the Italian average, Goal 2 (Zero

hunger) declined in the last year, reflecting an increase in overweight children. The indicator for Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation) improved in the first two years due to a decline in households that do not trust their tap water for drinking purposes and that complain of irregularities in their water supply. Goal 7 improved in the last year due to an increase in household's satisfaction with the continuity of the electricity service (90.8%). The situation in cities (Goal 11) worsened in the period 2014-2015, following an increase in 2016. This reflects an improvement in the quality of dwellings and a reduction in the proportion of urban waste sent to landfill out of total urban waste collected. Goals 8 and 9 performed in line with Italy (whilst ranking lower), as did Goals 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 5 (Gender equality) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), which are close to their national averages in 2016.



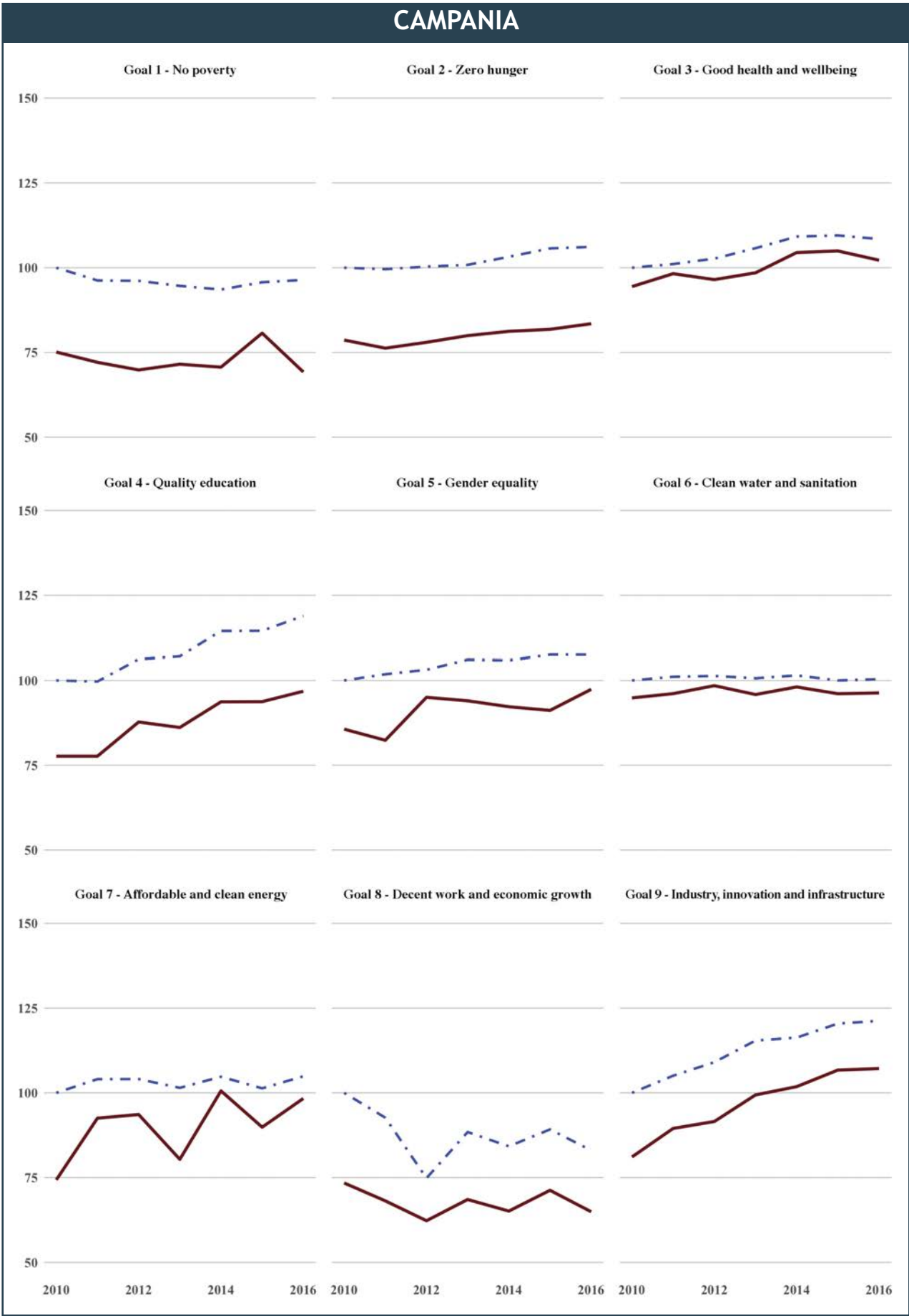


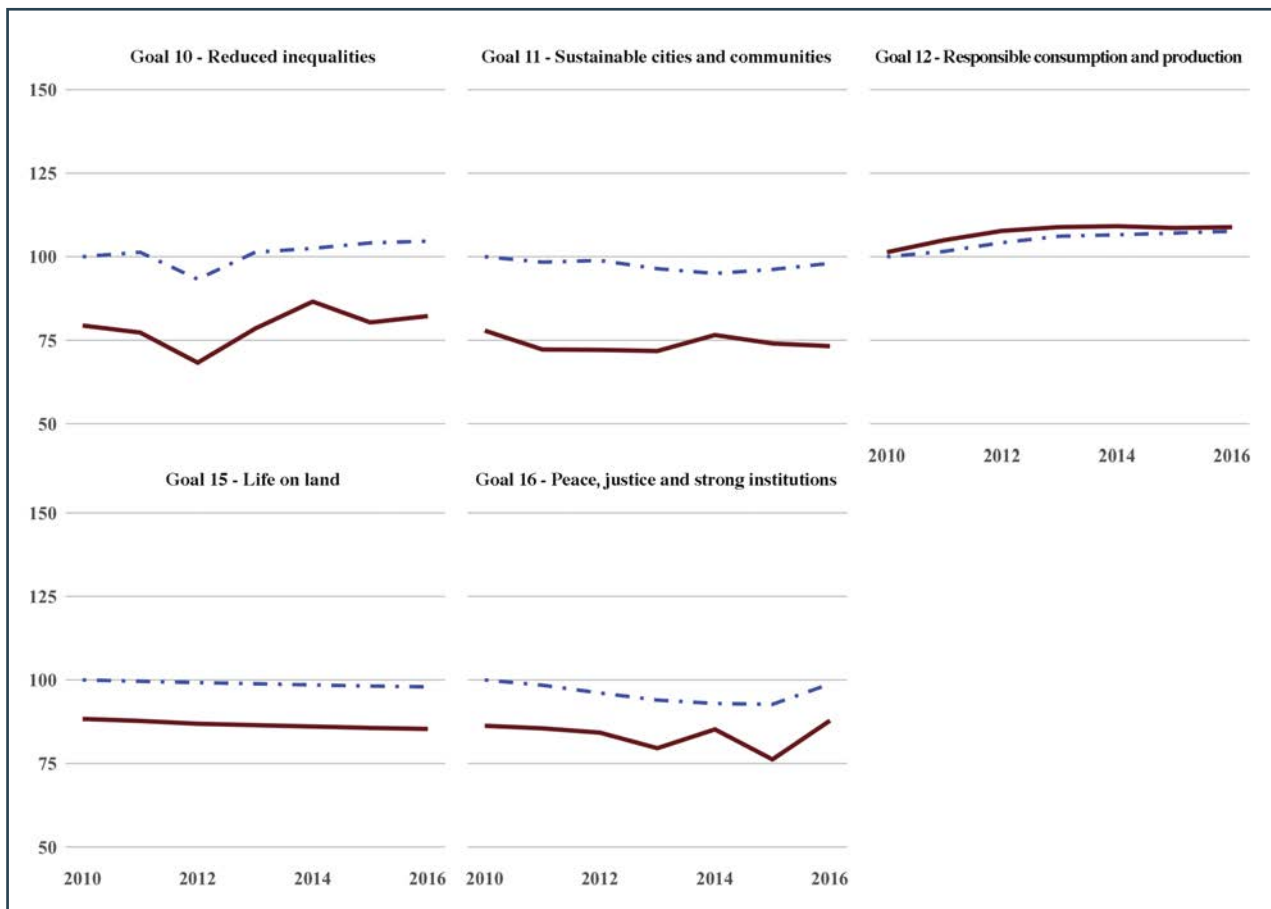
The indicators for Goals 7 (Affordable and clean energy) and 15 (Life on land) put Molise ahead of the national average. In terms of energy (Goal 7), the region is above the Italian average, despite a significant decline in 2015, caused by a fall in the number of households satisfied with the continuity of the electricity service and in renewable energy consumption. This was followed by a turnaround in 2016 thanks to an improvement in the same indicators. Goal 15 (Life on land) is ahead of the national average.

The composite indicators show that the region is in a negative position with respect to Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), lagging well behind in certain areas. In terms of Zero hunger (Goal 2), Molise is below average due to a large number of overweight children (34.1% compared with a national average of 24.7%), combined with poor agricultural productivity and the low proportion of agricultural land

under organic cultivation. The indicator for Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) worsened considerably in 2015, followed by an improvement due to the lower number of fatalities resulting from road traffic accidents. In terms of work and growth (Goal 8), except for an improvement in 2015 due to an increase in annual real GDP growth and a drop in the number of fatal accidents and permanent disabilities, the situation in 2016 is below the national average. The composite indicator for Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) is lags well behind the Italian average.

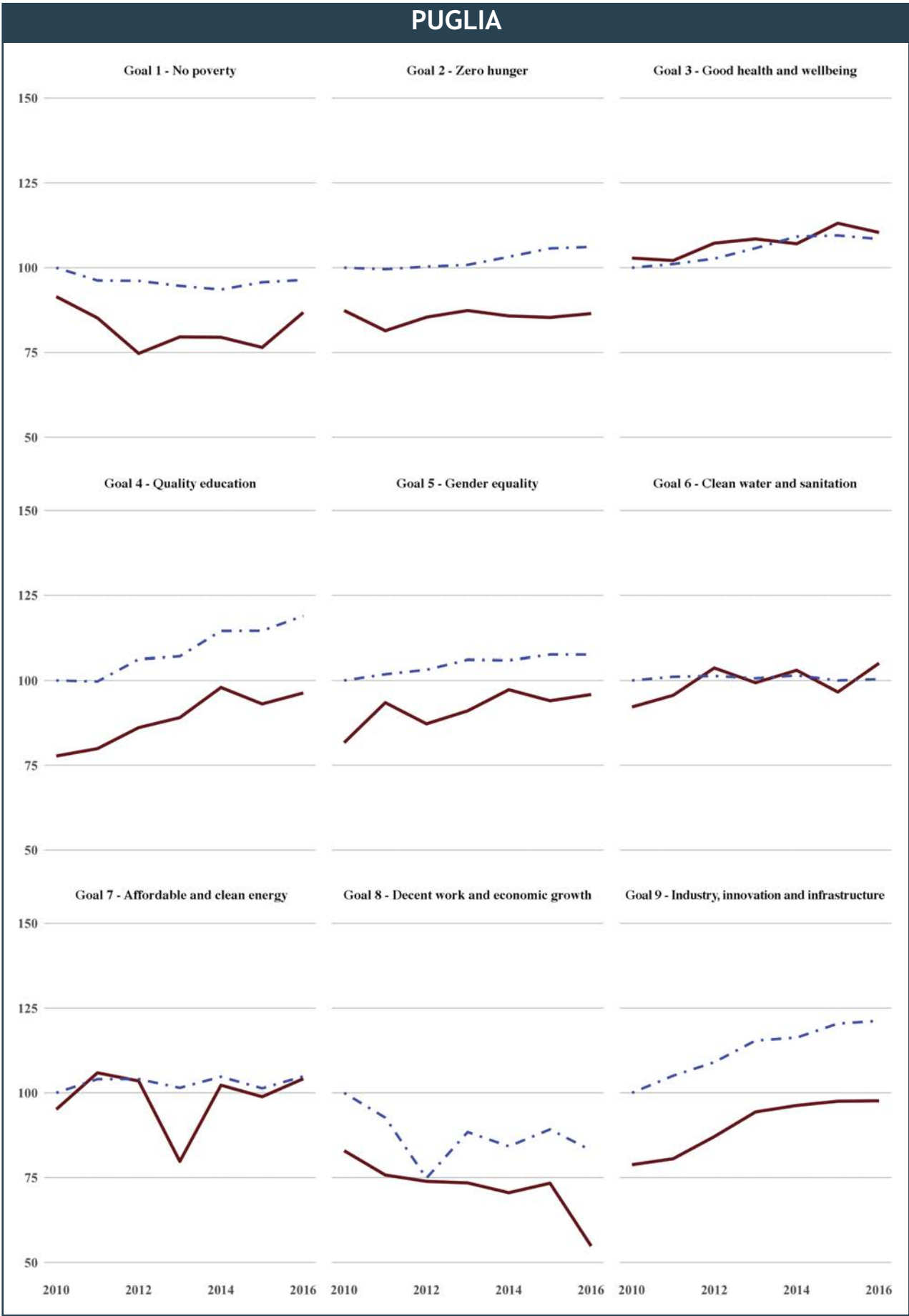
Goal 4 (Quality education) is ahead of the Italian average overall, but there was a deterioration in 2016 due to a reduction in the number of people participating in education and training, which pulled the regional indicator down to a level on a par with the national average.

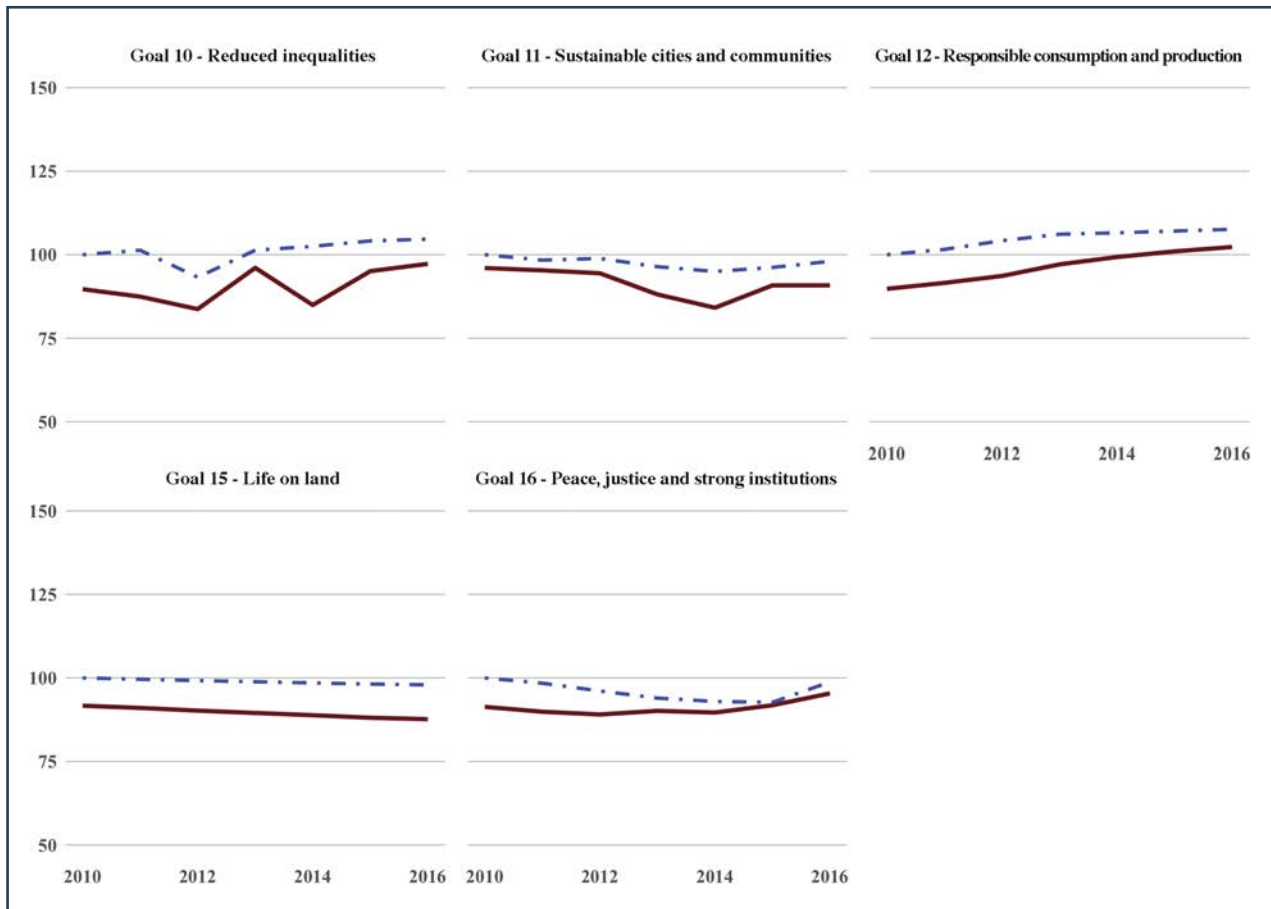




The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) show that the region lags behind Italy as a whole. In 2015, the indicator for Goal 1 (No poverty) rose, above all thanks to a decline in the proportion of individuals in low labour-intensive households, which fell from 15% in 2013 to 10% in 2015, before rising again to 13% in 2016 (explaining the decline in the composite indicator in the last year). In terms of Goal 2, the fact that the region has fallen behind Italy is due to a large number of overweight children (37% in 2016 compared with a national average of 25%) and the low proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation (5% in 2016 compared with 12% for Italy). The composite indicator for Quality education (Goal 4) puts the region well below the national average, reflecting a high number of early leavers from education and training (19% in 2016 compared with a national average of 14%).

Goal 5 rose in 2012 due to an improvement in the ratio between the employment rates for women with children of pre-school age and for those without children, whilst Goal 7 reported a positive trend overall, thanks to an increase in renewable electricity consumption (up from 15% in 2010 to 27% in 2016). The composite indicator for Goal 8 puts Campania below the national average, reflecting a higher rate of non-participation in the labour market, which stood at 39% in 2016 versus 22% for Italy. There was an overall improvement in Goal 9, driven by the proportion of households with access to broadband. In terms of Reduced inequalities (Goal 10), the region lags behind Italy, above all due to the high rate of households whose equivalent disposable income is below 60% of the median (37% in 2016 compared with an Italian average of 21%). In terms of Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production), the region ranks higher than the national average thanks to an increase in waste recycling at municipal level and a reduction in urban waste production.





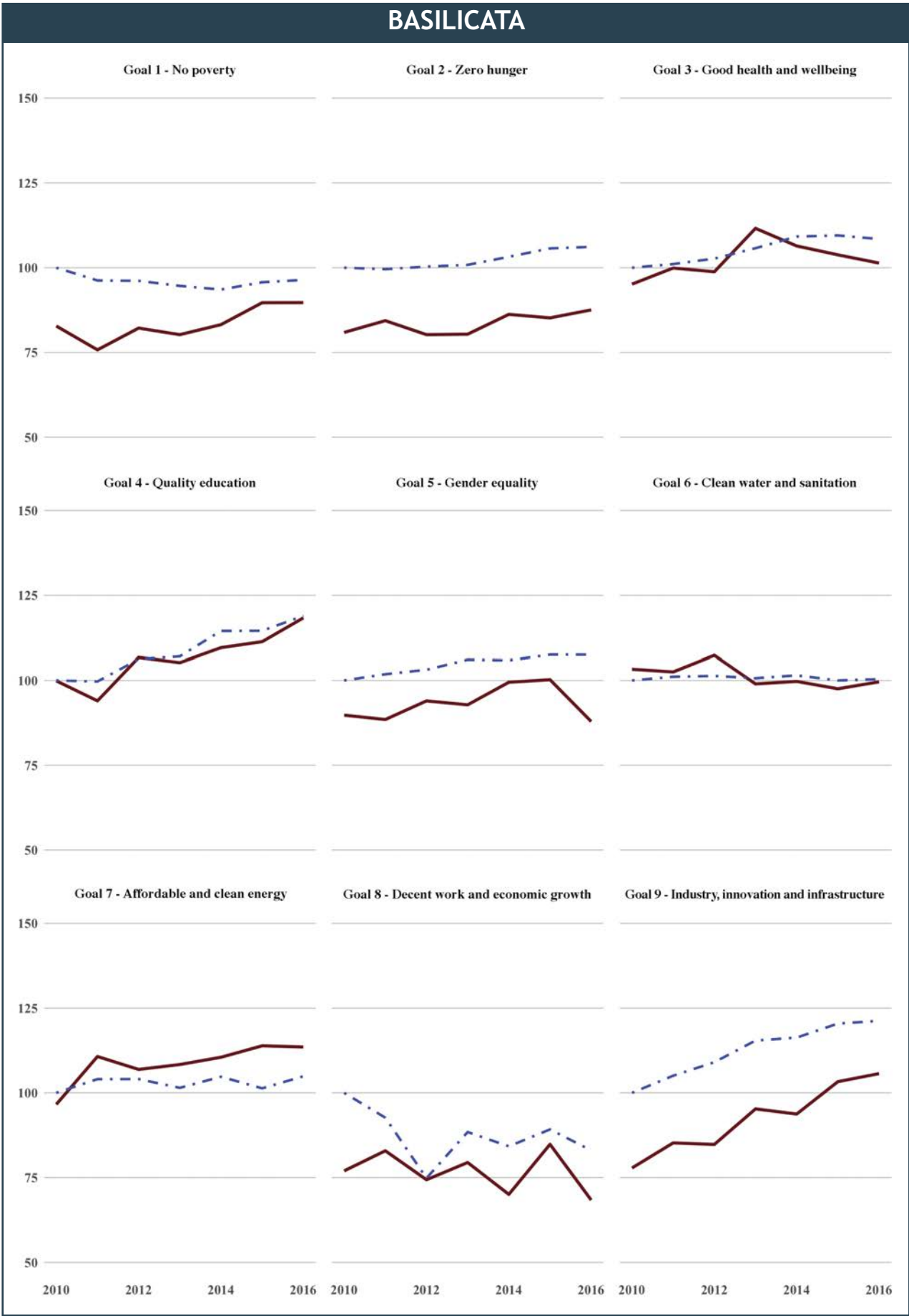
The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable and resilient cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) place the region below the national average. Goal 1 (No poverty) has recorded a different performance with respect to the country as a whole and, in the last year, saw a major improvement, caused by reductions in severe material deprivation and in the proportion of households in economic difficulty. In terms of Zero hunger (Goal 2) and Industry (Goal 9), the situation has been almost static in recent years, unlike the growth seen in Italy.

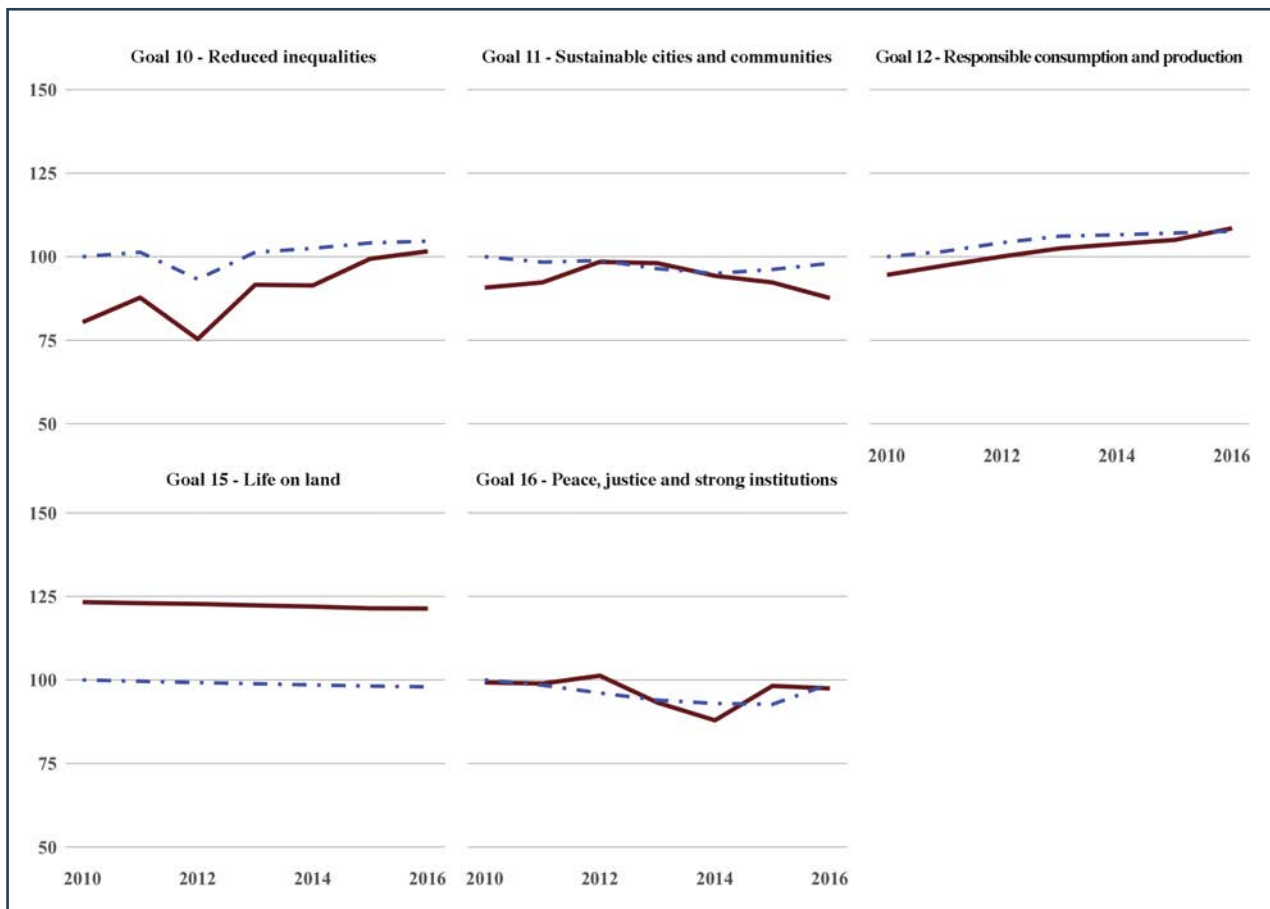
Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) has improved overall due to an improvement in the number of people who say they smoke. In 2016, however, there was a deterioration due above all to an increase in the number of deaths and injuries resulting from road traffic accidents.

Whilst showing that the region lags behind Italy as a whole, the graphs for Goals 4 and 5 reveal that

there was an improvement in the last year. In terms of education (Goal 4), this seems to be due to greater participation in education and training and an increase in the number of university degrees obtained. In terms of work (Goal 8), 2016 saw a downturn due above all to the rate of annual real GDP growth per worker (-2.2% in 2016 compared with an Italian average of -0.3%). Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities) performed well in the last two years, driven by increases in the rate of growth in per capita household income among the poorest 40% of the population and in average per capita disposable income.

In terms of Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy), the region is in line with the national performance, although there was a sharp fall in 2013 due to a reduction in the number of households satisfied with the continuity of the electricity service, an indicator that subsequently improved.

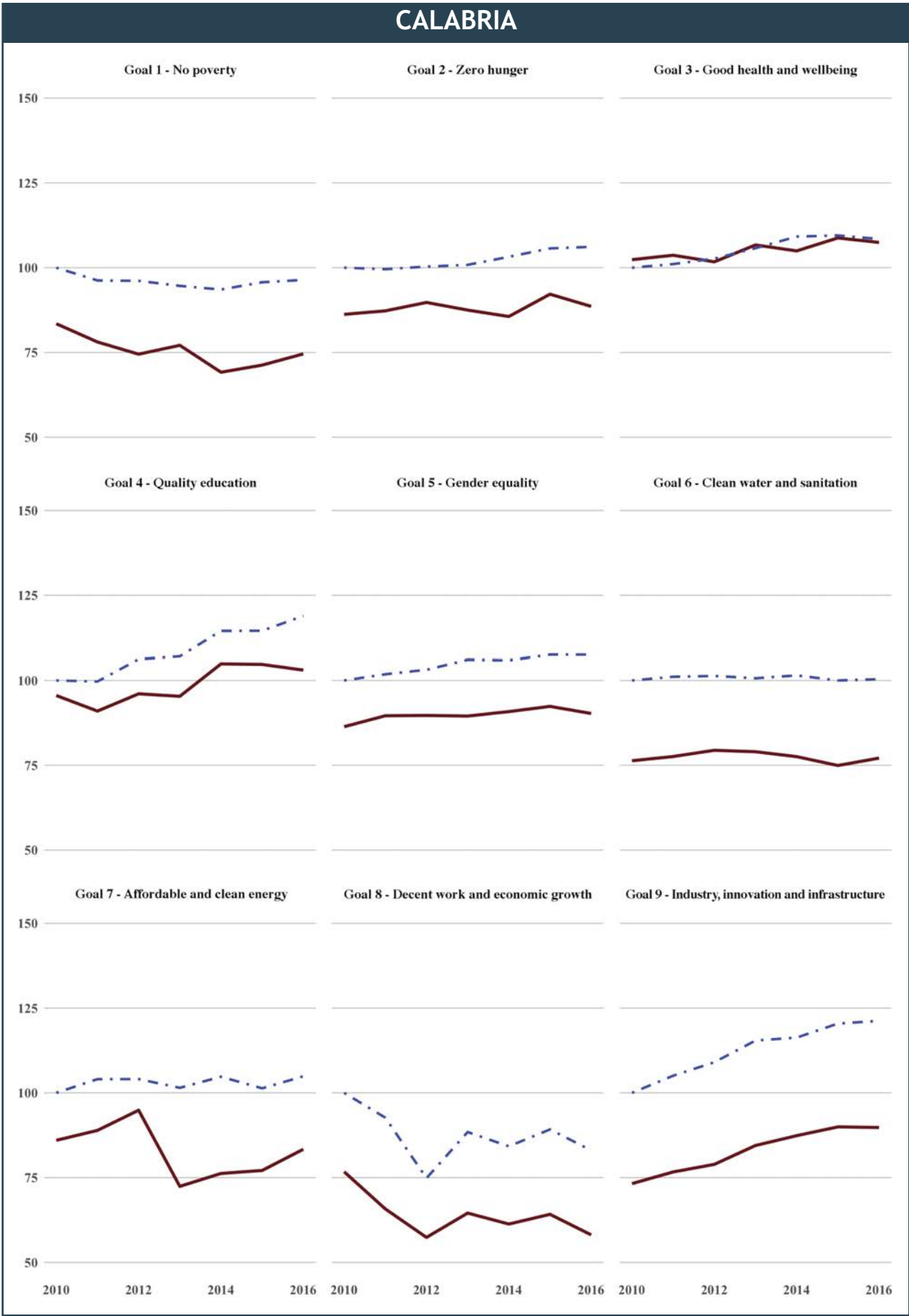


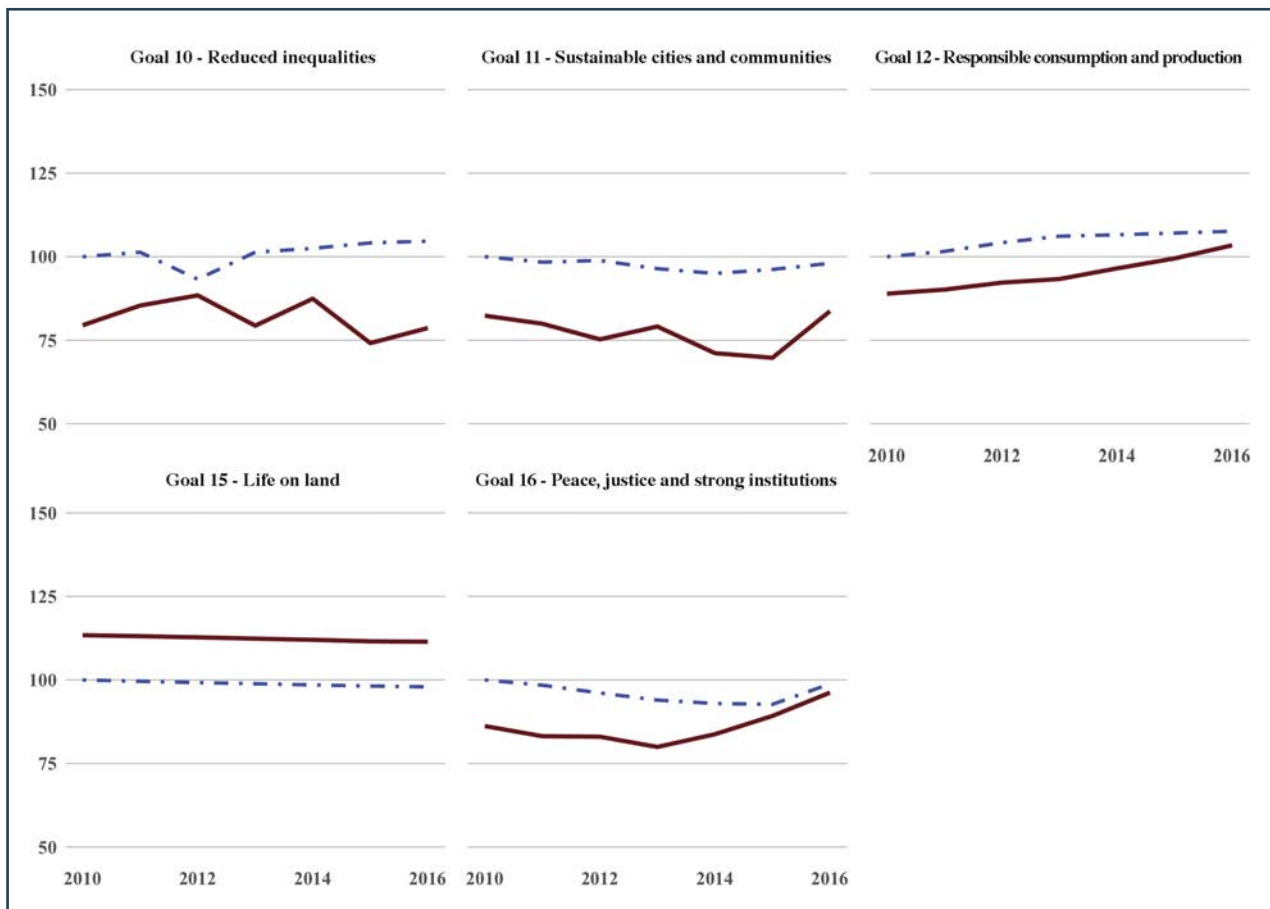


Compared with the situation in Italy in 2010, only the composite indicators for Goals 7 (Affordable and clean energy) and 15 (Life on land) put Basilicata ahead of the country as a whole. There has been a significant improvement regarding Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) thanks to an increase in renewable electricity consumption, up from 37% in 2010 to 81% in 2016 versus a national average of 33%. In the case of Goal 15, the reason why the region is ahead of the national average is the rate of land cover, which stands at 3.4% compared with a national average of 7.6%.

In terms of Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), the region lags behind the Italian average. In terms of Goal 1 (No poverty), it has improved thanks to a reduction in the proportion of households living below the poverty line (down from 29% in 2010 to 21% in 2016, compared with a national average of 11%). Goal 2 puts the region below the national average, due to low agricultural productivity, de-

spite the improvement seen during the last three years in the proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation. Goal 3 saw a major improvement in 2013, driven by a reduction in mortalities resulting from road traffic accidents. The decline in Gender equality (Goal 5) seen in 2016 reflects a reduction in healthy life expectancy for women at birth. In terms of Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), the situation has worsened overall due to a significant loss of efficiency in the drinking water distribution system, which stands at 44% in 2015, compared with a national average of 59%. The indicator for work (Goal 8) has fallen, above all due to an increase in the incidence of involuntary part-time workers. There has been a major improvement in terms of Goal 9, reflecting an increase in manufacturing added value per capita. Inequalities (Goal 10) have been reduced thanks to a decline in disposable income inequalities, whilst Goals 4 (Quality education) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production) have performed more or less in line with Italy as a whole.

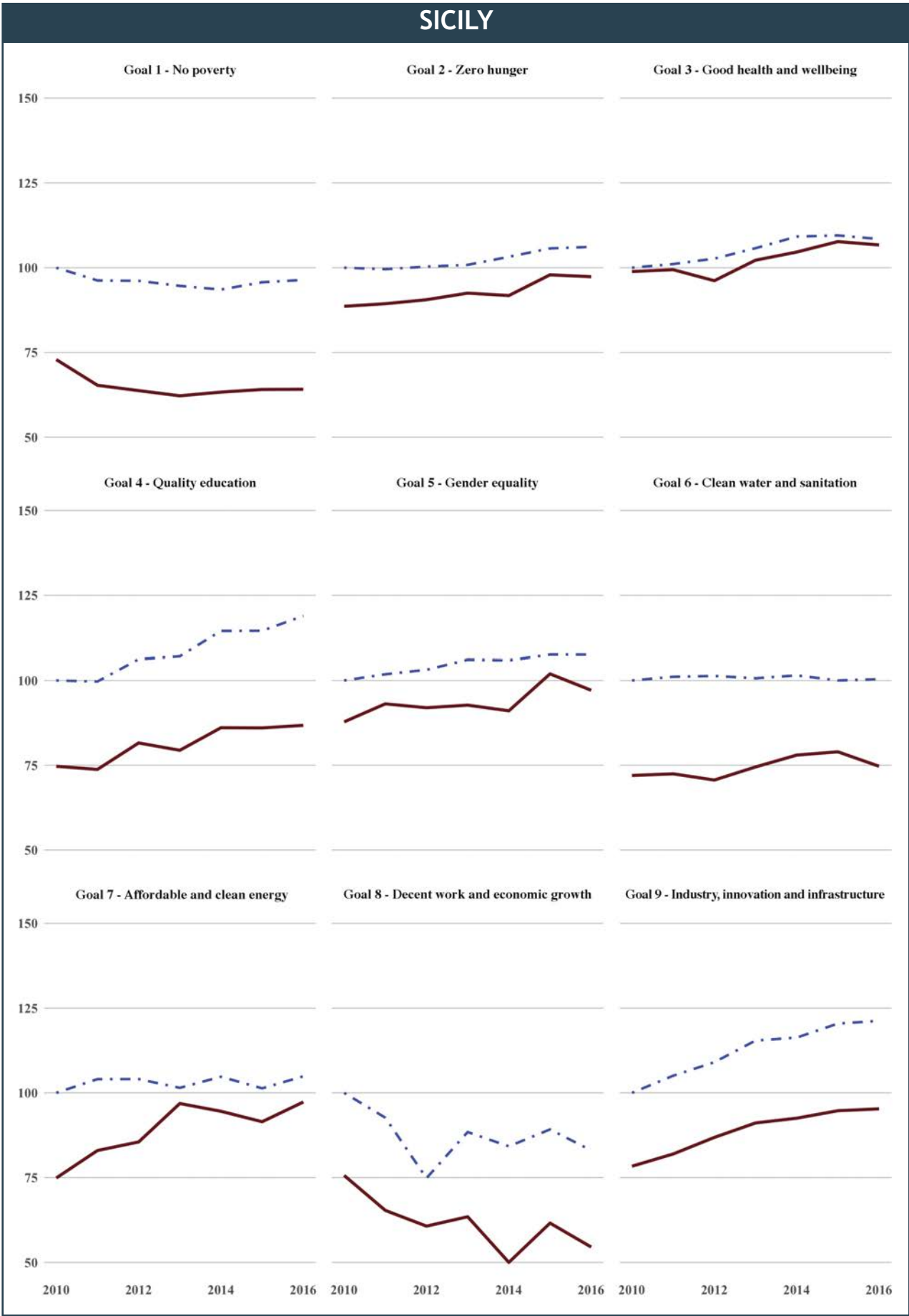


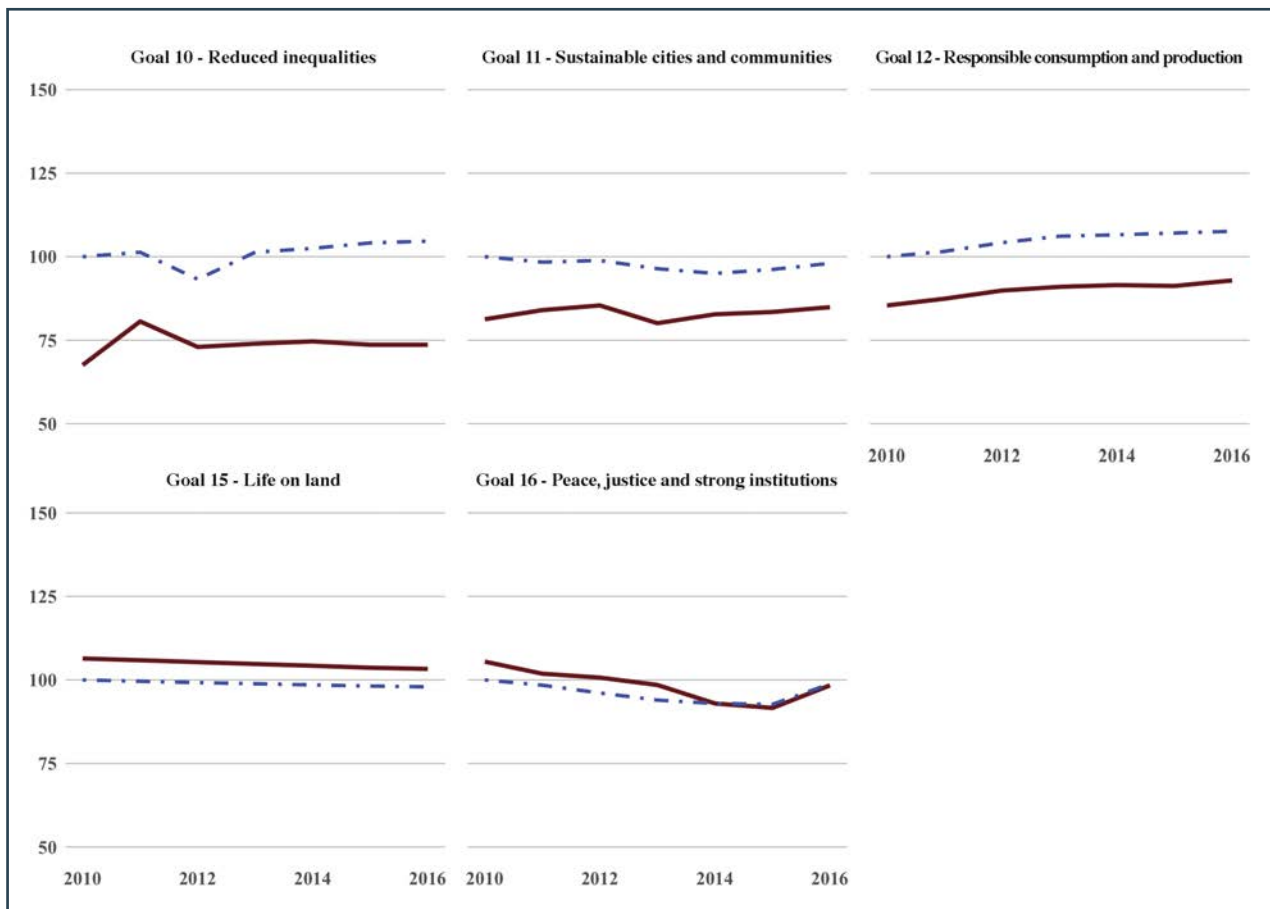


The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) rank the region below the national average. The No poverty (Goal 1) indicator has declined due to a sharp increase in the proportion of households living below the poverty line, which stands at 35% in 2016 compared with a national average of 11%. In terms of Goal 2, the region ranks below Italy as a whole due to an increase in overweight children, despite a promising rise in the proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation (27% in 2016 compared with a national average of 13%). The indicator for education (Goal 4) shows a positive trend, reflecting an increase in people between the ages of 30 and 34 with a university degree. Goal 6 ranks Calabria below the Italian average due to the number of households that complain of irregularities in their water supply (36% in 2016 compared with 9% in Italy). The Goal 7 indicator performed very poorly

between 2012 and 2014, reflecting the proportion of households satisfied with the continuity of the electricity service, despite an increase in renewable electricity consumption, which in 2016 stood at 77% compared with a national average of 33%. The indicator for Goal 8 has declined due to a sharp rise in unemployment, up from 12% in 2010 to 23% in 2016. Goal 9 has increased due to an improvement in the number of researchers, as has Goal 16, having benefitted from a reduction in the number of murders per 100,000 people, which fell from 3 in 2010 to 1 in 2016, compared with a national average of 0.5.

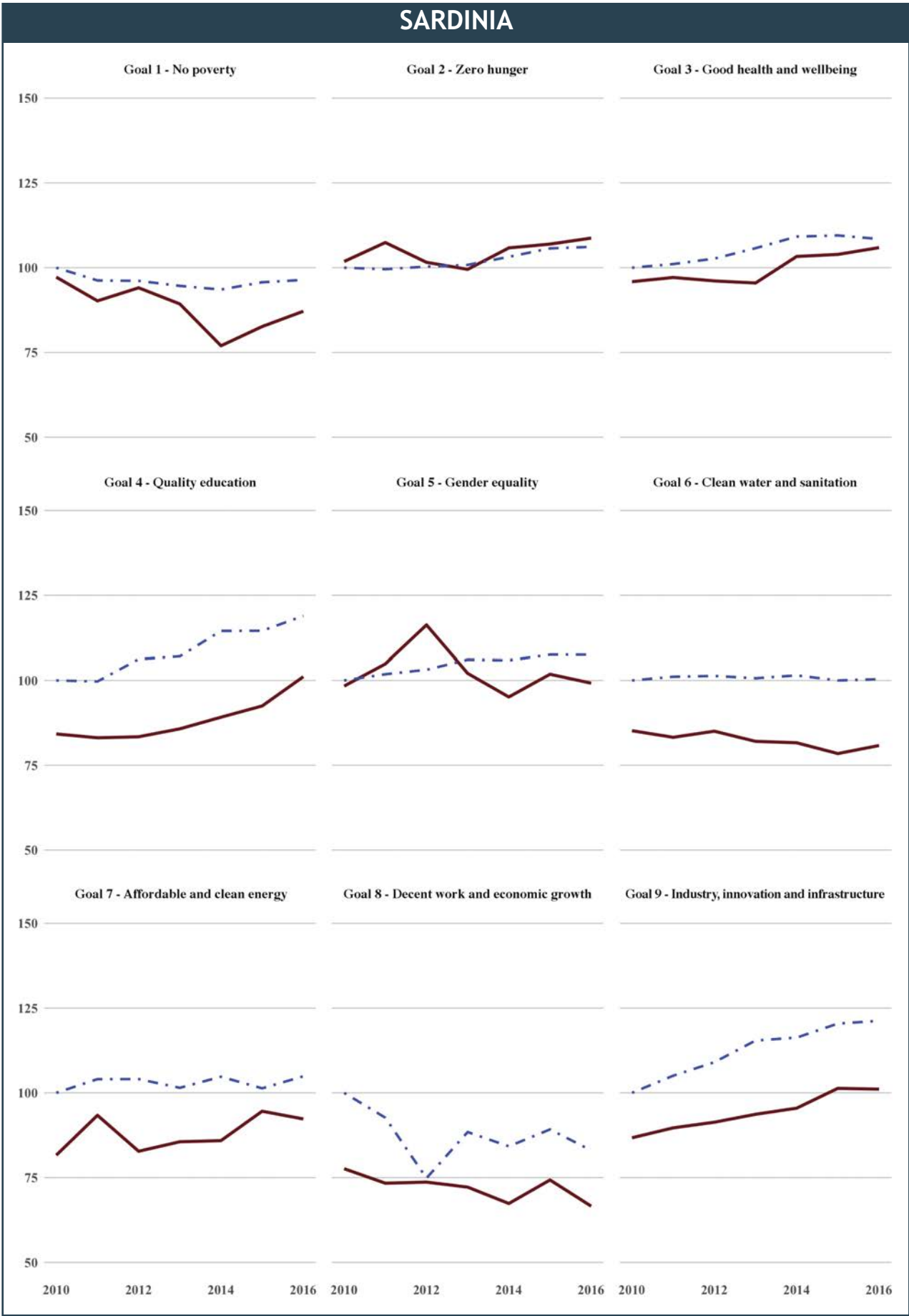
Finally, compared with the situation in Italy in 2010, the composite indicator for Goal 15 (Life on land) puts Calabria in a better position, thanks to the low level of territorial fragmentation, which stood at 27% in 2016 compared with a national average of 38%.

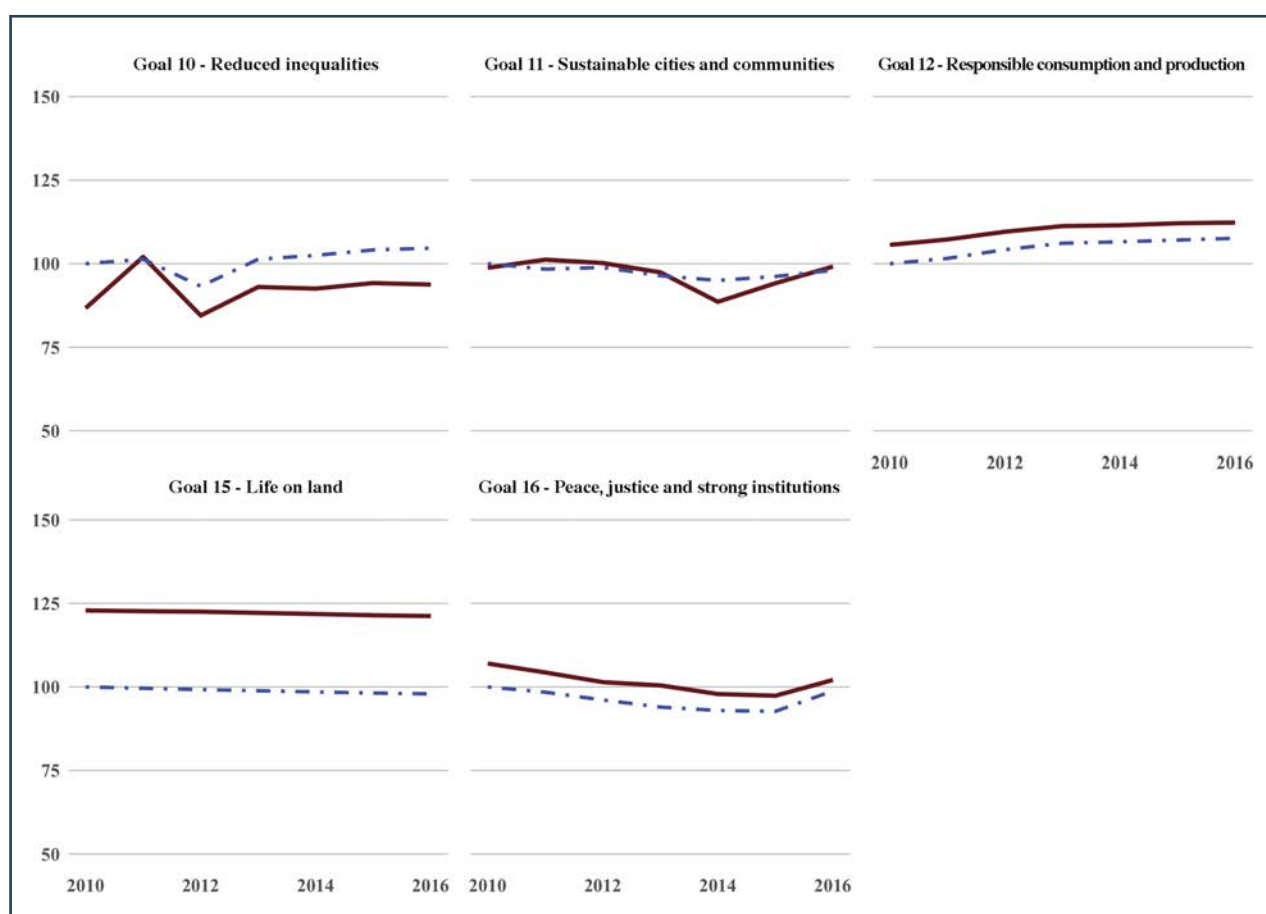




The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 2 (Zero hunger), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure), 10 (Reduced inequalities), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 12 (Responsible consumption and production) rank Sicily below the Italian average. The performance of Goals 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 is similar to the Italian average, whilst there are major differences in the case of Goals 5, 6 and 7. The indicator for Goal 1 (No poverty) places Sicily well below Italy as a whole, reflecting the very high percentage of households living below the poverty line, amounting to 23% compared with a national average of 11%. In terms of Goal 2 (Zero hunger), the biggest gap with respect to the national indicator results from a reduction in agricultural productivity, despite the proportion of agricultural land under organic cultivation amounting to 26% in 2016, compared with a national average of 12%. In terms of Quality education (Goal 4), the region is far worse off than the country as a whole. This primarily reflects the high incidence of early leavers from education and training, which stands at 24%

in 2016 compared with an Italian average of 14%. In terms of Gender equality (Goal 5), the negative performance is due to the low ratio of women to men in employment, which stands at 0.5 compared with 0.7 for Italy. Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) has performed well, driven by a reduction in final consumption of electricity and a marked increase in the use of renewable energy, up from 11% in 2010 to 26% in 2016. In the case of Goal 8, the relevant indicator has seen a significant decline due to a worsening unemployment rate, up from 15% in 2010 to 22% in 2016, compared with a national average of 12%. Finally, in terms of Goal 15 (Life on land) Sicily ranks higher than Italy as a whole thanks to the low level of territorial fragmentation within the region (31% compared with the national average of 38%). Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions), on the other hand, is in line with the national average.













Sardinia is in a better situation with respect to Italy in terms of the composite indicators for 2010 in relation to Goals 2 (Zero hunger), 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and 15 (Life on land). In particular, the Goal 12 indicator has improved due to an increase in the proportion of urban waste recycled, which is up from 45% in 2010 to 60% in 2016, compared with a national average of 52%. The composite indicator for Goal 15 ranks the region well ahead of Italy due to the rate of land cover, standing at 3.8% in 2016 versus a national average of 7.6%.







The indicators for Goals 1 (No poverty), 3 (Good health and wellbeing), 4 (Quality education), 5 (Gender equality), 6 (Clean water and sanitation), 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 8 (Decent work and economic growth), 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and 10 (Reduced inequalities) put the region below the Italian average. The drop in Goal 1 in 2014 is due to an increase in the proportion of people living in a dwelling with housing problems (the percentage is 35% in 2014 compared with a national average of 25%). Goal 3 (Good health and wellbeing) has improved due to a reduction in the proportion of people who say they currently smoke, which stands at 16% in 2016

versus a national average of 20%. Quality education (Goal 4) has improved thanks to a fall in early leavers from education and training. In terms of Gender equality (Goal 5), the situation worsened significantly from 2012 onwards due to a fall in the number of women elected to the regional council. The situation regarding water (Goal 6) has worsened due to a decline in the efficiency in the drinking water distribution system, which stands at 44% in 2015 compared with a national average of 59%. The indicator for Goal 8 has also worsened overall, reflecting an increase in people between the ages of 15 and 29 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), the percentage of which has risen from 25% in 2010 to 31% in 2016, versus a national average of 24%. The indicator for Reduced inequalities (Goal 10) worsened considerably in 2012 due to a sharp fall (-10%) in per capita household income among the poorest 40% of the population.

Finally, Goals 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) have recorded a performance very similar to the Italian averages.

Table 1 - List of the elementary indicators used in the regional composite indicators

No.	Indicator	Unit of measure	Polarity
GOAL 1 			
1	Severely materially deprived people	%	-
2	People living in households with very low work intensity	%	-
3	Share of total population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames of floor	%	-
4	Housing cost overburden rate	%	-
5	Proportion of households living below the national (relative) poverty line	%	-
6	Indicator of major economic difficulty (percentage of people in households that have difficulty making ends meet at the end of the month)	%	-
GOAL 2 			
1	Overweight or obesity among minors from 6 to 17 years of age	%	-
2	Overweight or obese adults (aged 18 or over)	%	-
3	Production of farms per labour unit, by class of labour unit and by class of accounting	%	+
4	Percentage of utilized agricultural area under organic farming	%	+
5	Indicator of good nutrition	% *	+
* % of population eating fruit or vegetables daily in the latest period of the survey			
GOAL 3 			
1	Neonatal mortality rate	per 1,000	-
2	Age standardised mortality rate between 30-69 years of age from major causes of death	per 100,000	-
3	Age standardised suicide mortality rate	per 100,000	-
4	Alcohol consumption	Per 100 people	-
5	Age standardised death rate due to road traffic injuries	per 100,000	-
6	Road accidents serious harmfulness rate	per 100,000	-
7	Unintentional poisoning standardized mortality rate	per 100,000	-
8	Standardized proportion of people aged 15 and over who report current smoking	%	-
9	Standardised proportion of people aged 14 or over who do not engage in any physical activity	%	-
GOAL 4 			
1	Participation rate of youth and adults (25-64) in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 4 weeks	%	+
2	Early leavers from education and training	%	-
3	People aged 30 to 34 who have completed tertiary education	%	+
4	People aged 25 to 64 who have at least completed secondary education	%	+
GOAL 5 			
1	Percentage of women elected to regional councils	%	+
2	Ratio between the employment rates for women (aged between 25 and 49) with children of pre-school age and for those without children	%	+
3	Ratio of healthy life expectancy at birth	ratio of women to men	+
4	People aged between 30 and 34 who have a university degree	ratio of women to men	+
5	Ratio between employment rates	ratio of women to men	+
GOAL 6 			
1	Households that don't trust tap water for drinking	%	-
2	Households that complain of irregularities in their water supply	%	-
3	Sewage treatment	%	+
4	Efficiency of the drinking water network	%	+
GOAL 7 			
1	Households very or fairly satisfied for the continuity of the service of electricity supply	%	+
2	Renewable energy share in the gross final energy consumption	%	+
3	Final energy consumption	TOE per capita	-
GOAL 8 			
1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	%	+
2	Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	%	+
3	Unemployment rate	%	-
4	Employment rate (age 15-64)	%	+
5	Non-participation rate	%	-
6	People not in education, employment, or training (NEET) (aged 15-29)	%	-
7	Incidence rate of fatal occupational injuries or injuries leading to permanent disability	per 10,000	-
8	Involuntary part-time workers as a proportion of total employed	%	-

GOAL 9 				
1	Manufacturing value added per capita	€		+
2	Manufacturing value added as a proportion of total value added	%		+
3	R&D intensity	%		+
4	Researchers (in full time equivalent)	%		+
5	Impact of knowledge workers on employment	%		+
6	Households with fixed and/or mobile broadband connection	%		+
7	Proportion of individuals using the internet	%		+
8	Indicator of broadband use in businesses	%		+
GOAL 10 				
1	Growth rates of household income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population	%		+
2	Growth rates of household income per capita among the total population	%		+
3	Disposable income inequality	ratio between income levels		-
4	Adjusted disposable income per capita	€		+
5	People at risk of poverty	%		-
GOAL 11 				
1	Indicator of low-quality dwelling	%		-
2	Share of total population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames of floor	%		-
3	Seats/km offered by local public transport	seat km		+
4	Overcrowding rate	%		-
5	Landfill of waste	%		-
6	Illegal building rate	%		-
7	Urban green areas per inhabitant	%		+
8	Households per difficulties of links with public transport means	%		-
GOAL 12 				
1	Separate collection of municipal waste	%		+
2	Number of organizations/enterprises with EMAS registration	Businesses per capita		+
3	Urban waste production	kg per inhabitant		-
GOAL 15 				
1	Artificial land cover	%		-
2	Fragmentation of natural and agricultural territory	% regional territory		-
GOAL 16 				
1	Number of victims of intentional homicide	per 100,000		-
2	Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	%		-
3	Trust in judicial system	score		+
4	Population aged 14 and over reporting trust in the police and the fire brigade (average score on a scale from 0 to 10)	score		+
5	Index of service accessibility	%		-
6	Effective average duration in days of civil proceedings	days		-
7	Number of burglaries	per 10,000		-
8	Number of robberies	per 10,000		-

3.3 How cities measure up and the Urban Agenda for sustainable development

In order to gauge how our cities measure up against the key objectives relating to urban aspects of the SDGs, contained in the ASviS-Urban@it document “The Urban Agenda for sustainable development. Objectives and proposals”⁶, 17 indicators were selected, including those recently made available by ISTAT and other Italian statistics providers. With the aim of summarising the progress made with respect to the previous year, we have adopted the “traffic light” method used by the Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea Protection in the preparatory analysis carried out when drawing up the National Sustainable Development Strategy⁷. Under this approach, “green” indicates that good progress has been made towards achieving the Goal; “amber” indicates that the situation is uncertain; “red” means that there is negative progress or a move away from the Goal. Where possible, we have used Eurostat indicators for the degree of urbanisation (the most densely populated areas - level 1; areas of intermediate population density - level 2; rural areas - level 3; urban areas - levels 1+2), and in other cases data from ISTAT and ISPRA for 116 provincial and capitals and metropolitan cities. In addition, a comparison with ISTAT’s SDG Report⁸ enables an assessment of the position of urban areas versus the national performance, even if the comparison is made difficult by a lack of quantitative objectives for the country as a whole.

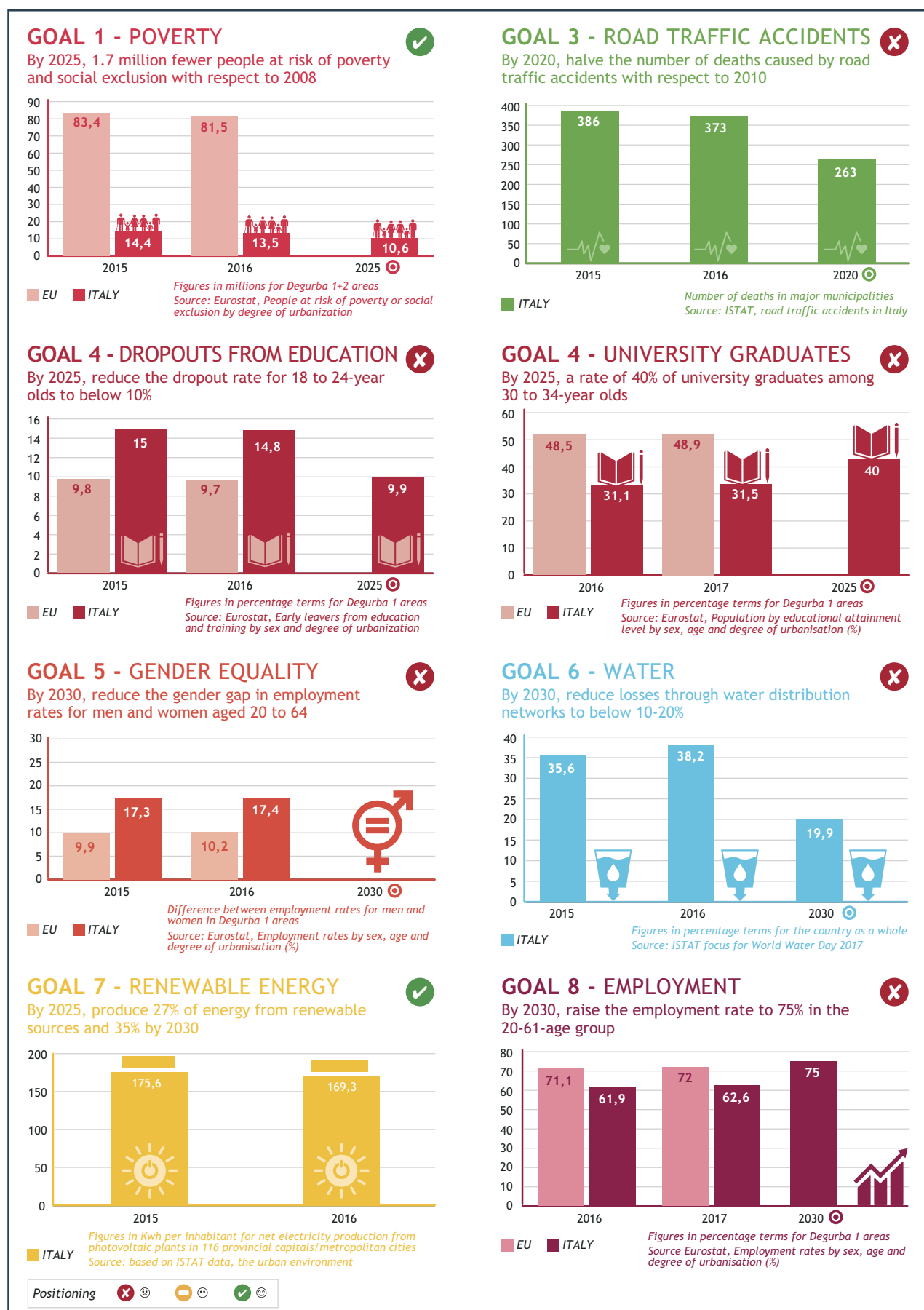
Of the 17 Goals taken into account, good progress has been made in relation to only five (green): these regard No poverty (Goal 1); Housing (Target 11.1); Energy (Goal 7); Waste recycling (Goal 12) and Security (Goal 16). In this regard, it should be noted that in the case of No poverty (measured in terms of people at the risk of poverty and social exclusion), cities are performing better than the national average (decidedly negative). This reflects the fact that, between 2015 and 2016, there was an increase in the number of people in these situations in less densely populated or rural areas⁹. On the other hand, the performance regarding housing, waste recycling and security is in line with the situation at national level.

Progress is negative in the case of 12 Goals (red). In this instance, it should be noted that the situation regarding dropouts from education (Target

4.1) and university graduates (Target 4.3) has improved compared with the previous year, as it has at national level. However, this performance is not enough to achieve the Europe 2020 Strategy Goals (a dropout rate below 10% and 40% of 30 to 34-year olds with a university degree), even if the performance is measured with reference to 2025 (rather than 2020). In addition, in terms of gender equality, measured as the difference in the employment rates for men and women between 20 and 64 (Goal 5), water (the percentage of water lost in the system, Goal 6), employment (Goal 8), use of the internet (Target 9.c), mobility (Target 11.2), use of the land (Targets 11.3 and 15.3), culture (Target 11.4), air quality (Target 11.6) and green space (Target 11.7), the negative performance is in line with national trends.

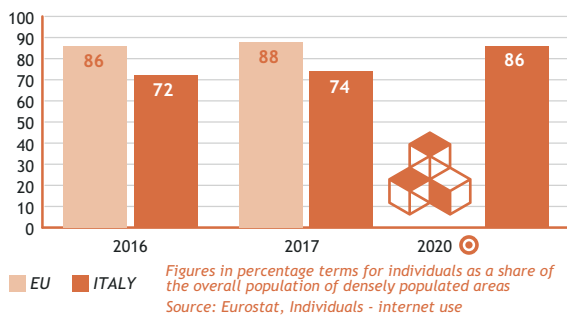
Indications provided by the Italian SDGs City Index, drawn up by the ENI Enrico Mattei Foundation (FEEM) and SDSN Italia, the national hub of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, are extremely interesting and appear to confirm the picture described so far. Based on the method used to draw up the Global SDG Index and the US City Index, the Italian index shows that, if 100 is the score assigned in the case of full achievement of the 2030 Agenda Goals, Italian cities have achieved an average score of 53, although there are very significant differences depending on location.

Figure 5 - How cities measure up to the key goals in the Urban Agenda

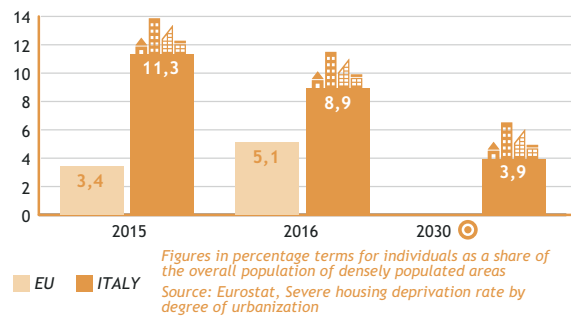


GOAL 9 - INNOVATION

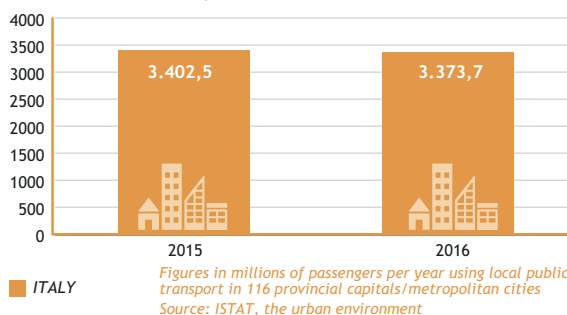
By 2020, achieve the 2016 European average for internet use

**GOAL 11 - HOUSING**

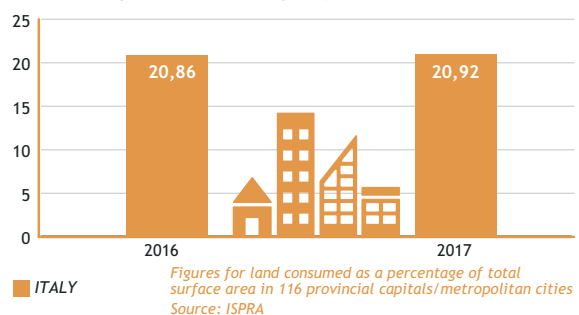
By 2030, reduce the percentage of the population experiencing severe housing deprivation to below 4%

**GOAL 11 - URBAN MOBILITY**

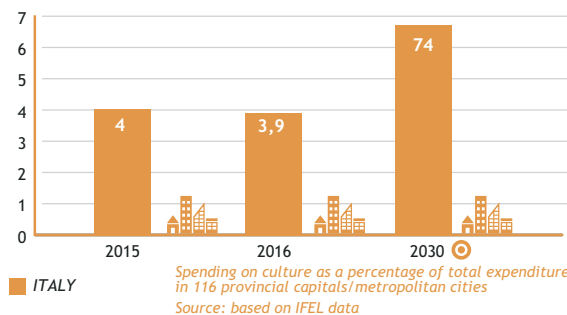
By 2020, achieve a 50-50 split between cars and other forms of transport

**GOAL 11 - USE OF THE LAND**

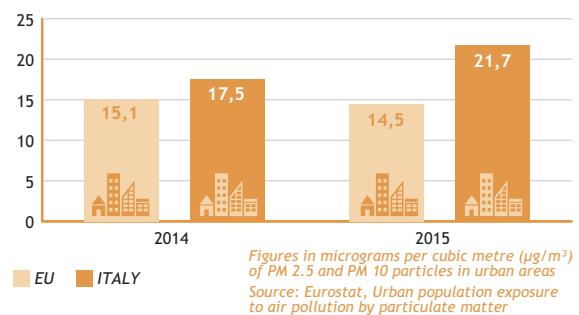
By 2020, reduce net land consumption by 20% (from 2 to 1.6m² per inhabitant a year)

**GOAL 11 - CULTURE**

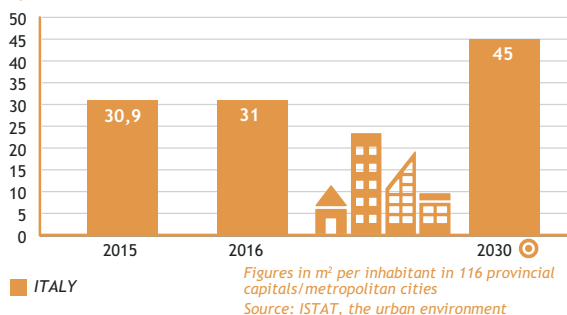
By 2020, increase public spending on culture by a total of 2/3

**GOAL 11 - AIR QUALITY**

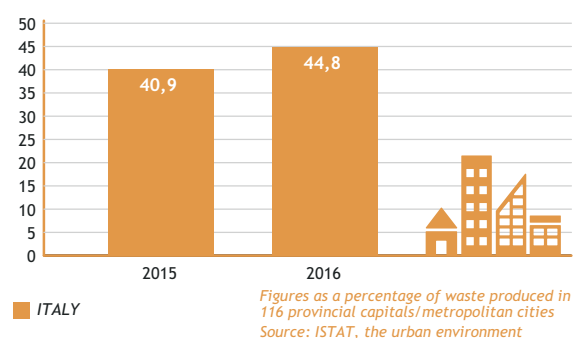
By 2025, comply with the limits for PM 10 and PM 2.5 (10 µg/m³)

**GOAL 11 - GREEN SPACE**

By 2030, achieve an average of 45m² of urban green space

**GOAL 11 - WASTE RECYCLING**

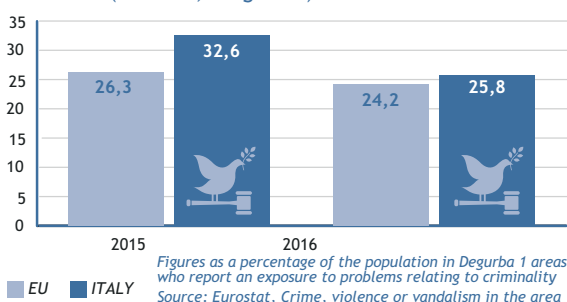
By 2025, recycle 70% of waste and 80% by 2030



Positioning

GOAL 16 - SECURITY

By 2030, achieve constant improvements in the indicators (murders, burglaries)



Figures as a percentage of the population in Degurba 1 areas who report an exposure to problems relating to criminality
Source: Eurostat, Crime, violence or vandalism in the area by degree of urbanization

HOW DO ITALY'S CITIES RATE AGAINST THE SDGs

How far are Italy's cities from achieving the sustainability targets set in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda? Is it possible to measure urban sustainability in Italy in terms of the implementation of the SDGs? To answer these questions, the ENI Enrico Mattei Foundation (FEEM, the hosting institution for SDSN Italia) and SDSN Italia (the national hub of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network) have, following the production of an Urban Sustainability Ranking, drawn up an index summarising the sustainability performances of provincial capitals.

SDSN Italia's SDGs City Index combines the classic concepts of sustainability with the specific ones introduced by the 2030 Agenda. In particular, with the aim of acting as a policy instrument and as a means of heightening awareness of the issues surrounding sustainable development, the index makes it possible to compare the country as a whole and performance at local level taking into account economic, social, geographical and demographic differences in the various areas. The Foundation's research forms part of a wider international framework devised by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in order to identify metrics and indicators to measure cities' performance against the SDGs.

Based on the methodology used to develop the Global SDG Index and the US City Index, SDSN Italia's SDGs City Index (for further details, reference should be made to Cavalli et al., 2018) shows that, if 100 is the score assigned in the case of full achievement of the UN's 2030 Agenda Objectives, Italian cities have achieved an average score of 53. In particular, no Italian city scores more than 80 in terms of overall sustainability, whilst no city qualifies for classification as "completely unsustainable", having scored below 20.

Given the interconnection between the various SDGs, the results of initiatives and policies in relation to any particular Goal are inevitably reflected in all the others, though to differing degrees (ICS, 2017). As a result, the same methodology applied to each individual SDG shows how certain Goals are a long way from being achieved (for example, the Targets for Goal 7 - renewable energy), whilst other Goals are on the way to achieving a good level of sustainability (for example, Goals 3 - Health and wellbeing, 6 - Clean water and 13 - Climate change).



NOTES

- ¹ For further information on how the regional indicators were constructed, see *Monitorare gli SDGs a livello regionale con gli indicatori compositi* (“Monitoring the SDGs at regional level with composite indicators”) by Alaimo L., Maggino F., Morrone A., Olivieri F. and Stefani A.
- ² For example, the report “How’s life in your region? Measuring Regional and Local Well-being for Policy Making”, published by the OECD in 2014, and the European Union’s guidelines, “The Europe 2020 strategy for cities and regions”.
- ³ Tables showing all the elementary indicators used at both regional and national level are available on ASviS’s website.
- ⁴ For further details, see Mazziotta M. and Pareto A., “On a Generalized Non-compensatory Composite Index for Measuring Socio-economic Phenomena”, *Social Indicators Research*, 127, 3: 983-1003. 2016).
- ⁵ To simplify interpretation of the charts at regional level, we have used a scale [50, 150] for all the Goals and all the indicators relating to the same period of time, from 2010 to 2016, even if, in some cases, the available data would have enabled us to compute indicators going back beyond 2010.
- ⁶ <https://www.urbanit.it/documento-di-asvis-e-urbanit-lagenda-urbana-per-lo-sviluppo-sostenibile-Objectives-e-proposte-dopo-la-consultazione/>
- ⁷ Ministry of the Environment-Sogesid, Italy’s ranking versus the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals, 15 February 2017, http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/posizionamento_italia_sdgs_3_2_15022017.pdf
- ⁸ https://www.istat.it/it/files//2018/07/Comunicato_SDGS_R.pdf
- ⁹ Between 2015 and 2016, the population of rural areas rose (+5.6%) to 24.5% of the national population. The population of the most densely populated areas also rose (+0.7% to 34.5% overall), whilst areas of intermediate population density recorded a decline (-6.3% to 41% overall).



ASviS's proposals



4. ASviS's proposals

After analysing Italy's situation with respect to the various SDGs, at national and local level, this chapter presents concrete proposals to step up efforts to achieve the 17 Goals. The initial focus will be on cross-cutting and systemic actions, which are the responsibility of Parliament and the government (in particular the Cabinet Office). More specific proposals will then be illustrated, organised into the seven "strands" already used in previous reports, which incorporate the SDGs within a unified and coherent conceptual framework.

4.1 Cross-cutting and systemic political actions

Some of the proposals contained in last year's report have been welcomed by political parties, as described in Chapter 2. The same applies to some of the commitments ASviS submitted in February this year to the parties and movements that participated in the national parliamentary elections.

The difficulties encountered by political parties in forming a government and the interruption in parliamentary proceedings for the summer break have curtailed legislative activity, although some of the initiatives already implemented have been marked by features that are decidedly different from the political and cultural framework that characterised the actions of the previous legislature. Moreover, this report is being published on the eve of the presentation of the 2019 Budget Law, which, according to what has been announced so far, should contain measures regarding several areas that are relevant for achievement of the SDGs.

In terms of governance for sustainable development, **we believe that first and foremost the government should immediately implement the Directive signed on 16 March 2018 by former Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni Silveri**, which recognises that "achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is a priority objective of the Italian government". In particular, **the National Sustainable Development Committee should be immediately set up at the Cabinet**

Office, chaired by the Prime Minister, or his or her delegate, and comprising all the ministers, and the chairs of the Conference of Regional Authorities, UPI and ANCI, or their delegates. The Committee, which was proposed and actively requested by ASviS, is the instrument through which the Cabinet Office coordinates the task of updating the National Strategy for Sustainable Development and the actions and policies required for its implementation. In this regard, given the importance of the issue, it should be noted that **the undersecretary with responsibility for equal opportunities should also participate in the Committee's work**, given the lack of a minister dedicated to this matter, which is essential for implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, **we call on the Cabinet Office to immediately launch the initiatives provided for in the Directive**, partly with a view to preparing an annual report on implementation of the Strategy, by February each year. In particular, the Directive provides for the following:

- the Department for Economic Policy Planning and Coordination is to coordinate preparation of the annual report, carrying out analysis and comparison between the initiatives carried out by the government and the content of the Strategy, and submitting the results to the Committee;
- ministries, as part of their respective duties, are to implement the Strategy and pursue the Sustainable Development Goals. To this end, by September each year, each Ministry must carry out an analysis of the consistency between the actions planned for the next three years, the content of the Strategy, and the results of the annual assessment of its implementation. By December, they must submit the results of these analyses, accompanied by a summary report setting out the main initiatives undertaken, to the Cabinet Office.

The Directive also requires the Prime Minister to submit collaborative projects to the Joint Conference in order to ensure implementation by re-

gional, autonomous provincial and municipal authorities - regarding matters within the scope of their respective competences - of actions aimed at implementing the Strategy and achieving the SDGs. Finally, in coordination with the other public authorities, universities, cultural and scientific institutions, associations and private bodies concerned, the Cabinet Office must undertake public information and awareness initiatives regarding the importance of the 2030 Agenda and the objectives to be pursued within the framework of the Strategy, while the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection is responsible for provision of public consultation initiatives relating to these matters.

Given the timeframes set out in the Directive, **the urgency of the above-mentioned actions is clearly apparent, in order to avoid losing an entire year of the cycle it envisages.** This is something that Italy can ill afford, given the large backlog of delays that has built up since the signing of the 2030 Agenda three years ago. Moreover, as the approved Strategy is still at the level of statements of principle, and does not go into details regarding the measures or specify realistic targets to signpost the pathway to the SDGs, **the government should urgently prepare a document to implement the Strategy, setting out quantitative objectives and concrete instruments through which they may be achieved.**

In the same spirit, **ASviS recommends that the government should accompany the presentation of the Budget Law with a report on its expected impact on the 12 Equitable and Sustainable Wellbeing (BES) indicators which are now part of financial planning** (adjusted average per capita disposable income; disposable income inequality; absolute poverty; healthy life expectancy at birth; overweight; early leavers from education and training; the rate of non-participation in the labour market, broken down by gender; the ratio between the employment rates for women aged between 25 and 49 with children of pre-school age and for those without children; predatory crime; civil justice efficiency; CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions; illegal building). Even though such an assessment is required by law at the time of presentation of the DEF (April) and after approval of the Budget Law (February), as the current government, formed on 1 June 2018, was unable to explain the impact of future policies on the BES

indicators in the latest DEF, we invite it to do so at the time of presentation of the next Budget Law, as we believe that such a change would provide Parliament and public opinion with an important instrument for assessing the proposals that will be made.

At the same time, **Parliament should schedule a debate on the draft constitutional law filed at the Chamber of Deputies, which is aimed at introducing the principle of sustainable development into the Italian Constitution**, as has already been done by other European countries, such as Belgium, France, Norway and Switzerland. The draft law fully reflects ASviS's recommendations to ensure better safeguards for present and future generations.

Many political parties (including the Movimento 5 Stelle) have committed to the proposal to include the principle of sustainable development in the Constitution, and signed the appeal proposed by ASviS during the last national elections, which also contained these other proposals:

- **transformation of the Interministerial Committee for Economic Planning (CIPE) into the Interministerial Committee for Sustainable Development**, which could be implemented with the next Budget Law, partly in order to better direct public investment towards the 2030 Agenda Goals;
- adoption of a **National Urban Agenda based on the SDGs**, which has been put forward as the urban dimension of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, complementing the existing strategy for internal areas. In support of this action, which ANCI fully agrees with, a Cabinet Office Decree should be drawn up to recreate the **Interministerial Committee for Urban Policies (CIPU)**, planned since 2012, making it an effective decision-making body along the lines of the Interministerial Committee for European Affairs (CIAE). This was also proposed in February 2018 by the Chamber of Deputies commission of inquiry regarding "The state of degradation and safety of cities and their suburbs". All the projects for suburban areas also need to be fully refinanced;
- **the setting up of a permanent body at the Cabinet Office to consult with civil society on gender equality policies.** Inspired by the experience of the French High Council for Equality between Men and Women, the Coun-

cil should be independent of the government, chaired by an expert in these matters and equipped with financial and human resources to achieve its objectives. Its membership should include representatives from the high-level institutions responsible for gender equality, Parliament, the most representative women's organisations and universities, and also experts and independent voices. The Council should: a) contribute to planning of public policies regarding equality between women and men; b) guarantee assessment of the gender impact of the various implementing laws and decrees, including financial and social security laws; c) promote studies, analyses and research and disseminate the achievements of other actors in Italy, in Europe and at international level regarding equality between women and men and the empowerment of women; d) formulate proposals and recommendations to improve the situation of women in Italy.

We also hope that by the end of 2018 the government will have prepared guidelines for state authorities so that they can apply environmental and organisational standards which contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. These should include the actions which, in accordance with the Directive, each Ministry should undertake from among those forming part of the assessment of public authorities' organisational performance.

Finally, it is important to bear in mind that the **22 Targets**, shown in Table 2, **are to be achieved by 2020 rather than by 2030**. Some of these relate to issues that frequently crop up in public debate, bearing witness to the relevance of the 2030 Agenda:

- “substantially” reduce the number of young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) (compared to 2015);
- halve the number of road deaths (compared to 2015);
- protect and restore water-related ecosystems;
- “significantly” increase the number of cities with plans to cope with climate change and ensure disaster resilience (compared with 2015);
- achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all waste throughout its life cycle;

- manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems in a sustainable manner, ensuring the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems, and protect and prevent the extinction of endangered species.

Therefore, we would like to draw the attention of the government and all political parties to these aspects, so that they may adopt effective measures and use all available instruments to try and achieve concrete results as early as 2019.

Table 2 - Targets to be met by 2020

GOAL 2 - ZERO HUNGER

- Target 2.5: By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.

GOAL 3 - GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Target 3.6: By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.

GOAL 4 - QUALITY EDUCATION

- Target 4.b: By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.

GOAL 6 - CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- Target 6.6: By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.

GOAL 8 - DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Target 8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.
- Target 8.b: By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization.

GOAL 9 - INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Target 9.c: Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.

GOAL 11 - SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Target 11.b: By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

GOAL 12 - RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- Target 12.4: By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

GOAL 13 - CLIMATE ACTION

- Target 13.a: Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible.

GOAL 14 - LIFE BELOW WATER

- Target 14.2: By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
- Target 14.4: By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.
- Target 14.5: By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.
- Target 14.6: By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.

GOAL 15 - LIFE ON LAND

- Target 15.1: By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.
- Target 15.2: By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.
- Target 15.5: Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.
- Target 15.8: By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.
- Target 15.9: By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts.

GOAL 17 - PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- Target 17.8: Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.
- Target 17.11: Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020.
- Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

4.2 Opting for sustainable development as a model for Italy's future

As many commentators pointed out during and after the last elections, one of the main shortcomings of Italy's economic system regards a "vision" for the future. As already pointed out last year, the influx of migrants, fears about the impact of technological innovation on employment in the future, and therefore on the social security system, noticeable increases in temperatures and drought, with obvious consequences for agriculture and the land, the attacks in European cities and fear of terrorism, and discussions on the future of the economic governance of the Eurozone have intensified public demand for solutions to the various problems that are effective in the short term, but also based on a broader perspective.

The Alliance believes that all political parties should openly declare their commitment to work on implementation of the 2030 Agenda, starting with achievement of the Targets set for 2020, and adopt the logical and conceptual framework for sustainable development, within which the existing interactions between the various components of the "system" can be explicitly identified (see box on page 122). Clearly - in such a framework - economic, social, environmental and institutional policies all have equal value and importance. Moreover, the idea that the economic dimension comes "before" the others has been superseded. This cultural and political option has generated extraordinary progress in certain aspects of wellbeing, but also enormous - and in some cases irreparable - damage to other aspects that are equally vital for the sustainability of the system.

The individual Goals in the 2030 Agenda can be included within this framework, which shows how each of them contributes to improvement of the conditions of the individual components and of the system as a whole. Using this framework also enables understanding of the emphasis the ASviS Report places on "circuits" regarding natural, human and social capital, whose systematic and constant impoverishment over time makes social conditions unsustainable, just as the continuous impoverishment of physical capital makes the functioning of an economic system unsustainable. In this framework, the role played by innovation in radically changing production processes and so-

cial relations becomes central, for example, by reducing the generation of "waste" (both physical and human) from economic activities, and thus enabling economic and social life to be organised in such a way as to maximise the wellbeing of people and ecosystems, not just GDP. Similarly, it is clear that the role of environmental and climate change policies is not only to preserve natural capital, but also to maximise ecosystem services, given their positive effect on people's wellbeing. Last but not least, this framework highlights the negative effect of poverty and growing inequalities, especially in terms of opportunities relating to ecosystem services, such as peace, mutual trust and trust in institutions. Therefore, it emerges that social policies also contribute to strengthening the sustainability of the entire system, minimising the risks, which are now in the public eye, to the stability of the institutions that have been painstakingly built up since the end of the Second World War.

Opting for such an approach has important implications for the way policies are designed, their implementation monitored and their effects assessed. For example, this approach implies the development of integrated models for assessing economic, social and environmental policies, similar to those used in the ASviS Report for 2017. Therefore, **we invite the government to develop top quality policy assessment models, involving public and private research bodies, in order to strengthen the capacity to carry out ex-ante and ex-post assessments of the impact of policy decisions, including those made by Parliament.**

This also requires continuous improvement of the statistical database regarding the various phenomena. Acknowledging the clear improvement that ISTAT has made in monitoring the SDGs (as requested by ASviS since 2016), with the publication of its report in July 2018 and the periodic updating of the related database, **we request the National Statistics Agency and the other bodies of the National Statistical System to increase coverage and prompt delivery of information that is lacking or characterised by long delays with respect to the reference period (as is the case for some environmental and social data), and to systematically produce indicators disaggregated by gender relating to the various 2030 Agenda targets,** especially regarding the issue of inequalities. We also hope that the use of gender budget-

OPERATING MECHANISMS IN A FULLY INTEGRATED SYSTEM

Figure 6 illustrates a conceptual framework, derived from certain international studies on sustainable development, in which the main links between the functioning of the economy, society, the environment and institutions are shown. This framework stems from considerations of the four forms of capital (natural, economic, social and human), from the use of which all activities aimed at increasing the wellbeing of society arise, regarding both material components (i.e. the goods and services produced and subsequently consumed or invested) and immaterial components.

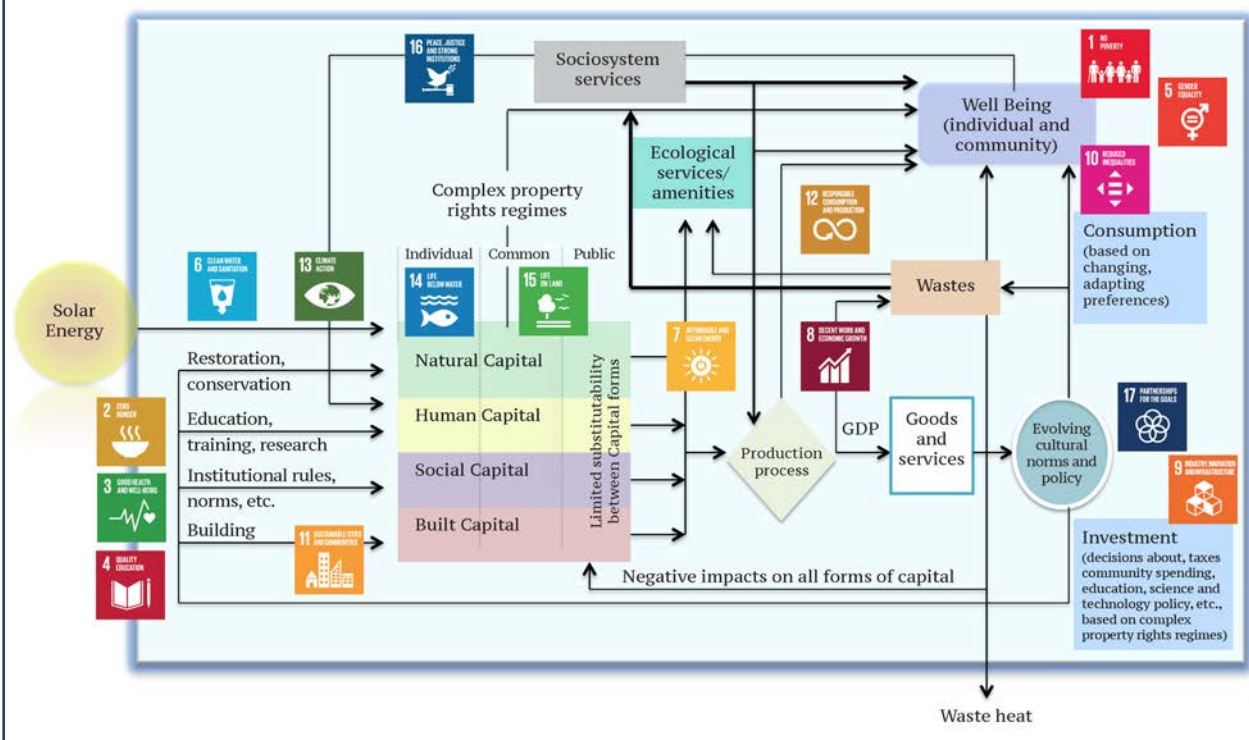
Via the framework, we see how production processes that use the various forms of capital determine Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a part of which - depending on political decisions and the choices made by economic actors - is consumed and generates wealth, and a part that is reinvested in order to replenish the capital used in the production process. In fact, even the way production processes are organised has a direct effect on wellbeing (just think of the organisational models adopted by companies, distribution of time between work and other activities, etc.).

Moreover, depending on the production and consumption model adopted, different amounts of “waste” are generated, both physical (rubbish, pollutants, etc.) and human (the unemployed, the poor, etc.), to use the words of Pope Francis’ Encyclical *Laudato si’*. Obviously, the generation of waste has a negative effect on the level of wellbeing of individuals and society as a whole.

Finally, production, consumption and wealth distribution models, together with the amount of physical and human waste generated, have an impact on the so-called ecosystem services, i.e. those that generate benefits necessary for life, and on socio-systemic services, i.e. those that generate benefits necessary for economic and social life, such as trust between people, and between economic actors and institutions. Both ecosystem and socio-systemic services in turn have an important effect on people’s wellbeing, which affects human and social capital, as does investment in physical and natural capital.

By including the Sustainable Development Goals in this framework, it is possible to understand the role they play in improving the functioning of the system, and in increasing or decreasing the wellbeing of society in the short and long term.

Figure 6 - Functioning scheme of an integrated economic, social and environmental system and the role of the SDGs



ing by the Ministry of the Economy and Finance and the Department for Equal Opportunities will go beyond the experimental stage and become common practice.

Finally, we would like to reiterate some of last year's recommendations, which unfortunately have not yet been implemented, in order to recognise - including from a statistical point of view - the key importance of natural capital (biodiversity and ecosystems), human capital and social capital as a vital foundation for our development and wellbeing:

- **invest in the expansion of national environmental accounting** in order to achieve a comprehensive assessment of natural capital, as well as **in its timely delivery**, so that the principal variables it contains are published together with GDP and other macroeconomic variables;
- **establish satellite accounts for education and human capital**, so that the effects of education policies may also be assessed in monetary terms, and accurate measurement of **educational poverty** achieved;
- **develop shared and timely indicators regarding intergenerational divides and social mobility**, disaggregated by gender and region.

4.3 Policies to accelerate the transition to sustainable development

In line with the conceptual framework illustrated in figure 4, the proposals developed by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development to implement policies that will enable Italy to improve the wellbeing of its citizens and achieve the Goals set for 2030 are presented below.

Climate change and energy

Energy and climate are two fundamental and closely interlinked aspects of sustainability. Indeed, it will not be possible to protect the climate without a radical energy transition towards low carbon, nor will it be possible to restore quality and inclusiveness to economic development without eliminating the serious environmental externalities and distribution inequalities that are generated by the current energy system. With the Paris Climate Agreement, the international community agreed to limit the increase in the average global temperature to 2°C - and possibly 1.5°C - above pre-industrial levels. The energy transition requires far-reaching technological changes in production, but this will not be possible without an equally substantial change in consumption patterns.

This requires a new form of inclusive multilateralism, but none of the actors involved are moving fast enough in this direction, so greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are still accumulating at a rate that will soon take us well above the 1.5°C threshold, beyond which some of the worst effects of climate change cannot be averted¹. Despite delays and hesitation, it should be acknowledged that an unprecedented global momentum is underway to build a low-carbon and climate-friendly future, characterised by a dynamic green economy, a prosperous society and a healthy environment.

Renewable energy accounted for 70% of net additions to electricity generating capacity in 2017. More than 20 states, regions and local authorities have committed to reducing their greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, compared to 1990. More than 700 companies, with a total market capitalisation of over US\$16 trillion, have made far-reaching climate commitments, while 289 investors, with a portfolio of nearly US\$30 tril-

lion, have signed up to Climate 100+, a five-year initiative to involve the world's largest greenhouse gas emitters, aimed at improving climate change governance, reducing emissions and strengthening climate finance, which should result in the global issuance of green bonds amounting to US\$300 billion this year.

In this context, the government should make an explicit commitment that it will not step back from the Paris Agreement and will contribute to the objective of ensuring that global CO₂ emissions peak in 2020, and that “carbon neutrality” (with emissions low enough to be safely absorbed by forests, soils and other natural systems) will be achieved by the middle of the century. So far, almost 50 countries have reached or may have reached their emission peaks, but Italy is not among them.

It is essential to implement the National Energy Strategy (SEN) and revisit its content, including the elimination of coal-fired power generation, even going beyond the recent improvements in the European strategy supported by the Italian government, and **by December outlining the Energy and Climate Plan, which is mandatory for all EU countries**, as provided for by the European Commission's Clean Energy Package 2016. The Plan should herald a bold and innovative path, which is capable of modernising our economic system, providing new export opportunities and strengthening development cooperation, especially in Africa.

The reform of the incentives scheme for renewables must be rapidly completed, now that grid parity is approaching (namely, the point at which electricity produced by plants powered by renewable energy sources has the same price as energy produced by conventional energy sources, i.e. fossil fuels, or alternative energy sources such as nuclear power). This would allow the resumption of new installations and guarantee achievement of the targets agreed in Europe. **The carbon tax should be incorporated within the overall redesign of the tax system announced by the government.** In particular, excise duties on fuels should be set to promote low-carbon solutions by removing existing incentives on fossil fuels. **The EU-ETS emissions trading system for industry, energy and aviation should be strengthened**, by continuing the change of course with respect to the issuing and allocation of permits, which has already con-

tributed to raising their price from €5 per tCO₂ to over €20 per tCO₂, with the aim of doubling it later on.

Conclusion is urgently needed of the approval process regarding the National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNACC), which was presented in July 2017, by adopting regulatory measures that make its implementation mandatory and imperative, given the key role that climate change adaptation plays in sustainable land use planning. **Scientific research in key areas not covered by the SEN**, such as the development of bio-energy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS) technologies, which absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere (negative emissions), **should be strengthened**, bearing in mind that geo-engineering, which plans to shield solar radiation, might rather cause the typical side effects of any solution that only addresses the symptoms and not the causes of a disease.

The involvement of the areas that contribute most to solving the energy-climate conundrum, namely cities, should be vigorously pursued. Networks of global metropolises have already been created (such as the Covenant of Mayors and the C40), but there is a need to boost the resources and autonomy of mayors to make commitments regarding issues such as adaptation to the effects of climate change, urban regeneration, the defence of biodiversity, distributed solar power generation, sustainable mobility, waste circularity, pollution reduction, zero land use, maintenance of heritage and infrastructure, and food waste, all of which are aspects of the 2030 Agenda that only cities are truly capable of achieving. Therefore, strong action from the national government is required, in the realisation that local initiatives are an integral and substantial part of the Energy and Climate Plan, reviewing what is already envisaged by the SEN from this standpoint and defining specific multi-level governance measures that directly support cities in the adoption of mitigation and, above all, adaptation initiatives.

Poverty and inequalities

Defeating poverty is one of the most challenging and priority objectives for Italy, which in the last ten years has seen an increase in absolute poverty and inequalities. The increase in absolute poverty, which has a greater impact on young people and children, is accompanied by the risk of social ex-

clusion, a multidimensional phenomenon which, in the way it is measured at European level, also enables severe material deprivation and low labour intensity within households to be taken into account.

Deep and growing inequalities in Italy, and their increasing concentration in certain regions, represent a threat to development and citizenship rights. There are stark inequalities in the recognition of their values, roles and aspirations. If not addressed, they generate anger and resentment and give rise to social regression and the raising of dangerous barriers.

An initial response to the multidimensional phenomenon of poverty came with the introduction of Inclusion Income (Rel), which accompanies financial assistance with a personalised social inclusion plan and employment opportunities for vulnerable groups. **The Alliance believes it is vital to continue along the current path to make this instrument (or the future “basic income”) a truly universal measure - one that reaches all those in absolute poverty - and that provides interventions that are adequate in terms of resources and the quality of support services offered regarding job placement, training, quality education and health protection. Special attention should be paid to minors, for whom the measures undertaken to combat educational poverty and implement inclusion pathways in which they are actively involved should be ongoing.**

ASviS reaffirms that continued implementation of the Rel reform does not preclude adoption of additional measures that primarily target young and large families, as they are most at risk of social exclusion. **Therefore, it is deemed vital that the next Budget Law should contain precise commitments to guarantee an effective fight against poverty in the medium and long term, as set out in the “National plan for interventions and social services to combat poverty 2018-2020”.**

The declared aim of any intervention to amend tax rates should be to increase actual tax progressivity, as provided for in art. 53 of the Constitution. Between 2008 and 2014, the 5,000 richest people in Italy saw their share of national private wealth grow from 2% to 10%². Therefore, Italian citizens would find it unacceptable if their contribution to the public finances were reduced.

More effective action is also needed to assess undeclared wealth, avoiding all forms - including implicit ones - of tax amnesty, and for a gradual reduction in the preferential tax regime granted to investment income, taking into account the OECD's call for an assessment of the advisability of rebalancing the taxation of income and assets.

The previous ASviS reports **proposed that government efforts to redistribute wealth should be accompanied by pre-distribution initiatives that can affect actual equality of access to opportunities and the formation of primary incomes.** According to the guidance in article 3 of the Constitution, redistribution should go hand in hand with measures that increase people's capabilities, thereby radically influencing the phases of wealth and primary income formation and access to essential services. This will require a radical change in national and European policies, but also major investment in the public sector, in the quality of human resources and in the transparency of policies and administrative processes, in order to ensure ongoing effective monitoring of citizens and active citizenship organisations.

Regarding access to basic services, it is vital to strengthen national responsibility for achieving key performance levels, starting with education and health, where the influence of family and regional conditions on the ability to access quality services is still very strong. At the same time, approaches that take better account of the needs and structural constraints of each area must be used, including those based on forms of public participation. This has been started in the internal areas with a National Strategy. Involved in the selection of projects, citizens have expressed their preferences, and the proposals for many project areas have been approved, but they need to be rapidly implemented. A similar strategy should be designed for suburbs, with a real National Urban Agenda for Sustainable Development, which goes beyond the old logic of tendering out projects and implements strategies that aim to transform people's lives.

As part of a policy that aims to revive public investment, assessment of its social impact in individual areas and the public demand for public assets needs to be strengthened, by promoting research and innovation policies that ensure better and safer working conditions and enhance the

quality of products and services that everyone can benefit from (e.g. application of new technologies to the environment and health). The ability to safeguard competition must be strengthened by preventing the monopolisation of knowledge³, including that based on big data.

Making it easier for people with entrepreneurial skills to take on management positions and access research results, as well as worker participation and self-management, are key aspects of promoting equal opportunities. In this regard, **policies that give workers a greater role in the management of businesses should be encouraged, also by taking advantage of experiences in “collaborative manufacturing”**. Public support mechanisms for workers or managers who wish to take over a company in crisis, deal with the generational changeover in family business, or turn around a company that has been confiscated from organised criminals, should be strengthened.

At European level, with the launch of negotiations on the 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, it is necessary to revitalise growth and social inclusion policies, whose weakening has undermined the trust of tens of millions of European citizens in the European Union. Cohesion policy - as an investment policy aimed at encouraging the convergence of the various regions towards inclusive and sustainable growth targets, with a focus on the objectives, processes and results of public actions - could be the prime instrument for implementing the 2030 Agenda at EU level, but only if it has a new place-based approach at its core.

The role of women of all ages is fundamental in building more dynamic, equitable and inclusive societies. While gender equality legislation, although incomplete, has made significant progress, unacceptable delays and shortcomings may be noted at the implementation level, a sign that full gender equality does not appear to be a priority. Gender equality was completely ignored in the so-called “coalition agreement” and in the formation of the Executive, with the presence of only 11 women out of 64 members. Even among the initial appointments made by Parliament, gender balance was not considered at all (as in the case of the election of 20 men to the self-governing bodies of the judiciary).

In this regard, we would like to recall the many proposals contained in last year’s report concerning:

- **overcoming gender stereotypes**, with awareness-raising campaigns, revision of textbooks and school curricula, and involvement of experts from the world of media and advertising;
- **combating violence against women and human trafficking, especially for the purposes of prostitution** (amendment of Law 205 of 25 June 1993, which introduced crimes relating to homophobia and also sexism; greater provision of safe houses and shelters; full coordination of the injunctions, pre-trial detention and protective measures available in civil and criminal cases; adoption of a new Action Plan to combat violence and anti-trafficking legislation, strengthening the fight against trafficking in minors, girls and women, and early identification and transfer of trafficking victims to appropriate facilities and resources in order to protect victims, especially migrant women, refugees and asylum seekers);
- **prevention of practices harmful to the mental and physical health of women, such as the marriage of girls and female genital mutilation** (conduct of investigations into the phenomenon and full coordination between the Department for Equal Opportunities and regional authorities, in order to collect data, information and good practices, but also to ensure transparency in the use of funds);
- **improvement of sexual and reproductive health and respect for reproductive rights**, with full application of Law 194/78 nationwide through identification of existing obstacles and adoption of a common national procedure so that the exercise of conscientious objection by healthcare personnel does not represent an obstacle for women who have to terminate a pregnancy.

Circular economy, innovation, employment

The ASviS Report for 2017 emphasised that three key factors for sustainable growth are support for innovation, especially that based on digital technologies, the transition to the circular economy, and the development of a new generation of infrastructure adapted to the 21st century. These factors must be translated into investments and policies which, on a case-by-case

basis, take into account local conditions, the specific dynamics and the critical points of the less developed and/or internal local entities, and, more generally, the material and immaterial infrastructure delays of southern Italy. However, it also stressed the need for this development to be inclusive, namely capable of generating adequate employment and income for a broad sector of the population. Otherwise, there is a risk of social unsustainability, which in turn generates tensions that do not encourage profitability and investment.

Unfortunately, the most recent data give rise not only to a reaffirmation of the urgent need for comprehensive action in this area, but also to a **call for the immediate definition of a “youth employment pact”**, in line with the ILO document entitled “Recovering from the crisis: A Global Jobs Pact”, which was approved in 2009. In view of the industrial changes underway and the emergence of network economies linked to digitisation, such an initiative is more necessary and urgent than ever (Target 8.b calls on countries to implement it by 2020). It should involve the government, economic and social partners and local authorities, resulting in the definition of a long-term plan that brings together all the actions aimed at supporting youth employment, ranging through initiatives to improve the transition from school to employment; measures to increase the funds allocated to research and development, especially in companies; vocational training and guidance to support employment and self-employment, also by reducing the tax and contribution wedge; the strengthening of active employment policies; and support services for new households.

Moreover, actions aimed at increasing productivity are indispensable, especially “multifactorial” productivity, namely the efficiency of the production system in combining different factors (capital and labour). Once again, the need to invest more in human resources is emphasised, in order to acquire the skills needed by the most dynamic and forward-looking sectors, which ensure not only high added value, but also high wages, without forgetting - in addition to services relevant for the quality of life and access to credit - services in the health, cultural, educational, tourism, agricultural and environmental fields.

The social and solidarity economy, as well as innovative forms of sustainable and responsible tourism and promotion and enhancement of the natural and cultural heritage, are more likely to succeed if adequately coordinated at national level and supported by adequate infrastructure and incentives that could be financed, on a like-for-like basis, through the reallocation of current subsidies that are harmful to the environment (€16 billion per year).

In order to encourage the empowerment of women in the labour market and increase female employment, it is necessary to:

- **establish care services throughout Italy**, especially in the south of the country where nurseries and family counselling are insufficient;
- **provide more flexible opening hours for public services** and launch campaigns to share care responsibilities with families, not least so as not to pass on to the younger generation traditions and stereotypes that adversely affect them;
- **strengthen the legislative instruments regarding work-life balance**, building on the positive experience of “agile working”;
- **strengthen training programmes relating to female entrepreneurship** and issues connected to credit and access to financial instruments for businesses, restoring measures such as those provided for by Law 215/92 “Positive action for female entrepreneurship”.

The growing awareness of Italian society and business of the need to change the economic and productive system to make it more inclusive and compatible with environmental protection requirements - namely able to generate employment and adequate income for a broad segment of the population - is an important foundation on which to build, with appropriate and courageous policies, marking a paradigm shift towards a circular and sustainable economy, in line with the 2030 Agenda. This shift should involve all aspects of the production process, including the use of renewable energy and materials, the exploitation of resources through upcycling, reuse and recycling, development of the market for secondary raw materials, extension of the useful life of products and assets through tailor-made design and maintenance, the design of products based on eco-design principles, and compliance with quality standards.

Regarding responsible production issues, we believe it is important that the government should undertake these actions:

- **extend the scope of application of Legislative Decree 254 of 30 December 2016, which implements the EU Directive on non-financial reporting.** This should include companies in the distribution and utility sectors, state-owned companies, medium-sized companies and companies active in sectors with a high environmental impact, while the compilation of integrated financial statements, which presents financial and non-financial reporting in a single document, should be encouraged;
- **step up implementation of the National Strategy for internal areas, bringing it into line, especially in mountain areas, with the principles and spirit of the circular economy;**
- **complete the reform of the third sector, by issuing delegated decrees and launching its implementation, thereby encouraging the development of social enterprises;**
- **strengthen legislation to promote and support innovative and sustainable start-ups, with programmes dedicated to innovation for social purposes.**

As already mentioned, there are many international initiatives relating to sustainable finance. In Italy, despite some commendable initiatives, an approach that puts the issue at the centre of financial intermediaries' actions appears to be lacking. In order to speed up the reconversion of finance to sustainable development, it is necessary to:

- **discourage short-termism, as is also recommended by the European Commission's Final Report on Sustainable Finance of February 2018, by promoting the taxation of financial transactions at European level (the Tobin Tax), which will also have the effect of creating new and substantial tax revenues, to be directed towards investment in the circular economy;**
- **combat tax avoidance, including through common European legislation, and step up the fight against tax havens, for example, by excluding companies belonging to groups based in them from public procurement procedures;**
- **encourage "banking diversity", through regulations that take into account the varying**

sizes and functions of lenders, by separating merchant and retail banks;

- **promote the incorporation of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria within financial products and processes;**
- **adopt the Generative Wellbeing Participatory Bond (GWPB) model when assessing investments, which takes into account the return on investment in terms of improving multidimensional wellbeing;**
- **include and apply the "comply or explain" formula in the legislation regarding pension providers (see art. 6, paragraph 13, letter c) of Legislative Decree 252/2005;**
- **channel the savings of Individual Investment Plans towards small and medium enterprises, evaluating the social and environmental characteristics of the companies.**

Finally, in order to orient consumption towards choices that encourage sustainable development, we recommend:

- **the promotion of partnerships between businesses and consumer associations in order to achieve "consumer sustainability" objectives, by jointly implementing projects, information campaigns and lobbying activities, including at local level;**
- **completion of the path towards a national Fair Trade Law, by proceeding with the draft law launched during the previous legislature;**
- **the promotion of sustainable investment knowledge and practices among private savers/consumers and financial market participants;**
- **development of specific monitoring systems to strengthen Green and Social Public Procurement (GSPP) in relation to public tenders and thereby gradually raise the Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC) and the Minimum Social Criteria (MSC), in order to orient the market towards sustainable production models;**
- **promotion of the bottom-up initiatives of active citizenship organisations which, through aware purchasing and saving choices, shift market shares towards responsible companies;**
- **issuance of the implementing decree for the regulations contained in the 2017 Budget Law which, by amending the Consolidated**

Banking Act, recognises the role of ethical and sustainable finance, establishing its principles and aims and providing specific forms of facilitation and support for banking operators who meet the relevant criteria.

Human capital, health and education

With reference to the themes of education and education for sustainable development, in its first two reports ASviS identified five priorities: (a) quality of learning, with specific attention paid to employability and life skills; (b) reduction of early school leaving, including via concentration of resources on the areas and situations most at risk; (c) giving priority to inclusion, by consolidating the Italian tradition of schools that are welcoming and open to everyone; (d) lifelong learning, partly in response to a demographic change that has seen the Italian population increasingly concentrated in the adult and mature age groups; (e) dissemination of education for sustainability and global citizenship, based on the belief that this is an essential condition for the achievement of all the various Goals set out in the 2030 Agenda. **These five priorities should be regarded within a 10-year timeframe and, as such, are reaffirmed here.**

As, over the last twelve months, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research has paid attention to the theme of education for sustainable development by defining a Plan divided into 20 actions in line with the Goals of the 2030 Agenda, **we hope that it can continue and step up the efforts initiated in collaboration with ASviS.**

As we saw in the chapter dedicated to the regions, also in the field of education, the quantity and quality of the educational offering continue to be marked by great differences. In view of their depth and persistence, it is necessary to reflect on educational policies that are able to change the status quo, **starting with more appropriate allocation of resources to be earmarked for the training and re-motivation of many serving teachers, the dissemination of innovative teaching experiences, and international mobility training opportunities for teachers and students.**

In order to make the intervention to combat child educational poverty structural, it is recommended to continue along the path mapped out by the 2018 Budget Law which, in order to implement specific interventions on the ground, **has provided for ISTAT to define educational poverty**

parameters and indicators in order to identify the priority areas for intervention, based on periodic surveys and integrated use of administrative sources.

Regarding higher education, while the increase in the resources of the State Supplementary Fund for awarding university scholarships is to be welcomed, we should also emphasise **the need to strengthen all the instruments relating to the right to study** (not only scholarships, but also student loans and logistical services for students away from home), which are never too generous in a country where one out of two 19-year-olds doesn't even attempt to set foot in a university classroom.

In order to improve the state of health, given its key role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, **we need to shift from prevention as it is traditionally understood, and on which public debate usually focuses, to the vision of "health promotion" promoted by the Ottawa Charter, of which the environmental and social components are fundamental pillars.** This certainly does not mean lessening the importance of prevention, and especially secondary prevention, of which vaccination programmes are an essential component, given the risks that Italy runs, partly in light of the doubts that are widespread in some social circles regarding traditional forms of vaccination.

Avoiding "lowering our guard" in the area of vaccination, especially with regard to the economically and socially more vulnerable groups, is therefore the first action to be taken, also with respect to diseases that can be reduced thanks to targeted screening and vaccines, as in the case of cervical cancer and the papillomavirus. The same prevention efforts must be deployed to keep sexually transmitted diseases to a minimum.

To promote the holistic vision of wellbeing and health, in line with the 2030 Agenda, at the 2018 Sustainable Development Festival, ASviS presented some guidelines and an approach, based on assessment indicators for the outcomes achieved, which are shown below. The proposals are specifically designed for Italy, where the most important health issues regard inequalities, holistic prevention, integration of health and social services in local areas, long-term care for the chronically ill and the disabled, combating waste, and the development of a widespread and aware health culture.

In terms of responsibilities, the guidelines set out specific responsibilities for the national government as a whole relating to point 1 (especially the reduction of pollution, road traffic and workplace accidents, occupational stress, private vehicle traffic), and point 6 (education and health information for the general public, especially combating fake news and interventions in schools, sports facilities and mass communication). The Ministry of Health has specific responsibilities with regard to point 2 (full implementation of essential levels of care (ELC), especially equitable access to benefits, support for disabled and dependent people, home care, vaccines and screening, continuity of care, care in the community and primary care). The National Institute of Health is, instead, being asked to take more effective action in relation to point 3, dedicated to prevention (correct and healthy lifestyles, and preventive measures against nat-

ural disasters), and point 5, relating to waste and abuse (in particular, with regard to inappropriate medicines and services, aesthetic medicine and homeopathy, and suitability criteria for public facilities and basic medicine). The Conference of Regional Authorities should primarily deal with rebalancing the healthcare offering around the country, promoting the activities of high-quality clinical networks and measuring progress with specific indicators, as provided for in point 7. Local health authorities and municipalities are involved in point 9, which regards the promotion of a shared plan for local social and health care, taking care of people and families in need, combating loneliness and depression, development of community forms of local support for vulnerable areas, and better organisation of urban life. The municipalities are also responsible for enhancing the role of the private social sector, as described in point 10, avoiding duplication and

ASviS's HEALTHCARE GUIDELINES

1. Implement the “health in all policies” principle by incorporating clear objectives within economic and policy planning, especially regarding the reduction of pollution, road traffic and work-related accidents, occupational stress and polluting vehicles, including monitoring of the results.
2. Define precise objectives for the implementation of the Essential Levels of Care and measure their achievement with specific indicators, especially regarding access to and waiting times for innovative new-generation services and medicines, as well as support for disabled and dependent people, home care, vaccines, screening, continuity of care, care in the community and primary care.
3. Step up efforts relating to prevention and measurement of progress, especially regarding lifestyle (nutrition, smoking, alcohol, physical activity) and natural disasters.
4. Step up efforts relating to medicine for the poor and preventive support and care for the poor, foreigners in difficulty, elderly people living on their own, and prisoners, including measurement of progress made.
5. Combat waste and reduce abuse of inappropriate drugs and services, especially antibiotics, aesthetic medicine and homeopathy; introduce stringent suitability criteria for public facilities and basic medicine, and measure the results with specific indicators; provide managers with transparent and efficient management training.
6. Increase the provision of correct information and health education and combat false and biased information via schools, sports facilities and mass communication.
7. Combat inequalities, ensure that the healthcare offering is balanced and of similar quality in all areas of Italy, promote high-quality clinical networks, and measure progress with specific indicators.
8. Step up investment in research and innovation, promote the development of biomedical research, life sciences and digital healthcare, and measure the increases with indicators.
9. Agree on a National Plan for integrated local social and health care, taking care of people and families in need, combating loneliness and depression, and developing community forms of local support for vulnerable areas, and better organisation of urban life.
10. Enhance the role played by the private social sector in health and healthcare, avoiding duplication and overlap, promoting the integration of functions and services, agreeing on common guidelines and developing experimental public-private partnerships.

overlap, promoting the integration of functions and services, and agreeing on innovative local trials of collaboration between the public and private sectors. With regard to point 4, the National Institute of Medicine for Poor People and Immigrants is invited to step up its efforts on behalf of the most vulnerable, and the preventive and health support it provides to the poor, to foreigners in difficulty, to elderly people on their own, and to prisoners. Finally, regarding point 8, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research is called upon to increase investment in biomedical research, the life sciences and digital healthcare.

On 26 July 2018, the Minister of Health, Giulia Grillo, presented the programmatic guidelines of her department to the Social Affairs Committees of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, some of which appear to be directly related to the recommendations in the guidelines. Specifically, the minister emphasised the intention to: a) speed up governance and monitoring processes regarding the healthcare offering in the various contexts, starting with computerisation of bookings for outpatient services; b) strengthen collaboration with the regions; and c) with the support of the regions and other stakeholders and citizens' representatives, to create what she called "States General for fair and sustainable wellbeing", which will define the general and long-term objectives evoked by the concept of sustainability, including with regard to the timing of implementation based on a timeframe.

Particularly important for people's quality of life and their health, as well as for the state of natural capital, is the theme of food and the quality of agri-food supply chains. With regard to food poverty, namely difficulty in accessing an adequate nutritious diet, institutions should step up their commitment to:

- **defining "adequate" food plans**, based on a combination of appropriate, ecologically sustainable and affordable diets;
- **carry out awareness and nutritional education campaigns** to provide basic knowledge for the improvement of personal wellbeing;
- **improve the performance of the Food Poverty Support System** (food banks, soup kitchens, etc.), by investing in social innovation processes based on synergy between local stakeholders, as provided for by the 2016 Law on Waste.

The current system for monitoring child malnutrition needs to be modified (especially data regarding wasting, stunting and overweight under-5-year-olds), as it is not consistent with the system used worldwide (e.g. UNICEF), which prevents effective comparisons from being made.

In order to improve the relationship between food and health, the "principle of responsibility" should be adopted and disseminated among the actors of the agri-food system, and the role that "responsible" products can play in the market should be encouraged as much as possible. This can be achieved through training initiatives (for example, by channelling vocational training funds towards developing corporate social responsibility skills), greater support for innovation processes to direct food production towards products with high nutritional potential, and enhancement of the "local agriculture" model, which can meet the new requirements of consumers who are increasingly aware of food safety issues and the benefits of traceability and quality linked to a local area, thus ensuring the effectiveness of the control system in terms of the reliability of the information disseminated.

In order to encourage sustainable performance by the agri-food sector, the variables to be acted upon include the circular economy and technological, organisational and social innovation. With reference to the circular economy, an important aim is to gradually shift the food system to this model, by improving knowledge of circular economy principles among entrepreneurs, defining an incentive scheme to support the paradigm shift, promoting the dissemination of best practices for Agriculture 4.0, defending the competitiveness of "sustainable" products and raising consumers' awareness of the environmental and social values expressed through them, reducing waste and food losses from the field to the dinner plate, and enhancing the role of women as agents of change.

It is also necessary to work at national and European level to reduce imbalances in the distribution of direct payments in the current European Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and to ensure that the new CAP encourages the short food supply chain, integrating the urban dimension with the peri-urban and rural dimension, and offering more tax relief to entrepreneurs (especially young people) who want to produce food in a fair and sustainable way.

As far as technological, organisational and social innovation is concerned, **collaboration between the world of universities and research (possibly through the action of the University Network for Sustainable Development - RUS) and local actors should be encouraged**, in order to define priorities, develop technological, organisational and social innovations and solutions to tackle environmental and nutritional challenges, promote the sustainability of the agro-industrial chain, and contribute to the creation of new jobs, as recommended in the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact and the Milan Charter. To facilitate such collaborations, **it would be desirable for these issues to be increasingly present in the calls for proposals designed on the basis of regional operational programmes (ROP-ERDF), rural development programmes (RDPs), projects of major national interest and the Social Impact Finance research network supported by the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research.**

Natural capital and the quality of the environment

If achievement of the SDGs relating to natural capital and the quality of the environment is an essential condition for achievement of the economic and social objectives of the 2030 Agenda, effective and concrete government action regarding natural resources must be implemented by incorporating social and economic policies within environmental policies. This also entails acquisition of adequate ex-ante and ex-post tools to assess the effects of the various policies on the environment, given the fact that any action that reduces the availability of natural capital generates damage to the community and future generations.

In this context, the approval process of the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan must be rapidly concluded, and the recommendations in the 2018 Report on the State of Natural Capital, on how it should be incorporated within the assessment and monitoring of all policies, including economic policies and spatial planning, must be followed. Therefore, it is necessary to:

- define criteria for the incorporation of physical and economic impacts on natural capital and ecosystem services within the procedures for monitoring and assessing investments and public policies at all administrative levels;
- ensure, within the SNSvS, adequate quantification of the environmental objectives relating to natural capital and ecosystem services and the most suitable indicators to monitor them, in part to assess the contribution of proposed and implemented policies to the achievement of these objectives;
- strengthen incorporation of the assessment of the impacts of public investment on natural capital as part of implementation of the guidelines provided for by Legislative Decree 228/2011. To this end, relying on the collaboration of universities and specialist research centres: a) the public sector's responsibilities for the management of natural capital and ecosystem services should be strengthened; b) guidelines for the preventive quantification of the impacts and expected damage caused by planned actions to natural capital and ecosystem services, as well as the benefits deriving from restoration, management and environmental enhancement initiatives, should be issued.

The tax system should be redesigned to gradually reduce the pressure of economic activities on natural capital and ecosystem services, by defining a plan for the progressive elimination of environmentally damaging incentives as soon as possible, and also by including an assessment of positive and negative externalities associated with agronomic management in the definition of aid to businesses in the agricultural sector.

The parliamentary process to obtain approval of a national law with the aim of reducing the growth of land consumption and land degradation to zero should be relaunched immediately. In this regard, it would be possible to start again with the content of Draft Law AS 2383 (supplemented with the new Draft Law AC 63 regarding the aspects that strengthen the consistency and effectiveness of actions relating to achievement of the Goal 15 targets and the 2030 Agenda in all its complexity) and define a Specific Plan for Land Degradation Neutrality, as required by the Convention to Combat Desertification mentioned in Target 15.3.

When planning and assessing plans, programmes and projects, options that are “in harmony with nature” (nature-based solutions, green infrastructure) should be favoured over traditional infrastructure options (grey infrastructure), and **consolidation of the system of national and re-**

gional protected areas and the Natura 2000 Network on land and at sea should be pursued, enhancing their role in protecting areas from land consumption and fragmentation of ecosystems, with the development of connections via ecological network and green infrastructure systems. Similar coordination should be carried out in the various regions, including with regard to climate change adaptation planning, and actions aimed at preventing hydro-geological, drought and fire risks in order to protect forests.

In addition, innovative water management policies should be supported, including through the use of increasingly detailed data processing systems. In order to stem network leaks and inadequate purification, it is essential to carry out extraordinary interventions, ensuring the local coordination of catchment area authorities, regional authorities and water concession areas and defining industrial plans that oblige service operators to guarantee adequate standards and make investments linked to profits.

With the involvement of regional and local authorities, **the commitment to achieve European and national targets regarding the recovery and restoration of degraded ecosystems must be strengthened, as well as improvement of ecological connectivity and reduction of the artificialisation and waterproofing of the soil**, with particular reference to river systems and wetlands.

It is urgent to re-propose the content of Draft Law AS 2343 (possibly supplemented with the new Draft Laws submitted regarding the Right to Water), thereby **introducing recognition and quantification of the human right to water with a free minimum subsistence level for everyone to be excluded from market regulations**, recognising water as a common public good, providing for the activation of an International Solidarity Fund for international cooperation projects aimed at ensuring access to water in the poorest countries, and promoting the commitment of local authorities and forms of participation to protect this resource, as expressed in the proposal of the City Charter for the Right to Water.

Regarding marine ecosystems, **the government should adopt all the measures provided for in the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive**, ensuring that the human and material resources committed for this purpose are ade-

quate and commensurate with the environmental, economic and social interest that the marine environment has for Italy. The monitoring programme provided for by the Directive (which was already set to expire 2014) must be immediately implemented, in line with what is also envisaged in the Goal 14 targets. **The Offshore Protocol regarding the protection of the Mediterranean Sea** against pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf, the seabed and its subsoil, adopted in 1994 within the framework of the Barcelona Convention, **should be ratified.**

Finally, **the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation**, referred to in Targets 2.5 and 15.6 of the 2030 Agenda and signed on 23 June 2011, **should be ratified.** Moreover, in accordance with the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, the active participation of citizens and civil society in decision-making, and access to environmental justice, should be promoted.

Cities, infrastructure and social capital

Cities can play a crucial role in accelerating progress towards sustainability. Around 66% of European cities already have a climate change mitigation plan, 26% an adaptation plan and 17% joint adaptation and mitigation plans, while 30% have no form of initiative. Approximately 70% of cities with over one million inhabitants have mitigation actions and/or an adaptation plan, and in countries with national climate legislation there are twice as many urban mitigation plans and five times more willingness to produce urban adaptation plans than in countries without such legislation.

In this perspective, the European Covenant of Mayors has an important role to play and is encouraging smaller cities to make a serious commitment to climate change. Italy has almost 3,200 member municipalities and, out of a sample of 76 cities with a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants, 58 have an autonomous plan to curb emissions and 56 have a climate-energy plan, while only 15 have committed to undertake planned adaptation actions. Finally, five Italian cities have joined the Compact of Mayors launched by the UN with C40 and ICLEI to form a worldwide network of climate and energy initiatives.

The actions aimed at Italy's cities should focus on the 12 Goals regarding which the analysis carried out in the previous chapter reveals a situation that will not allow achievement of the 17 SDGs included in the Urban Agenda for Sustainable Development. Consequently, the following proposals, which have already been partially mentioned, are worth noting:

- **quality education:** early school leaving should be reduced, through timely intervention and more flexible personalised pathways for early school leavers. Universities and research centres should become the key drivers for the development of urban areas, by increasing investment in campuses with services for students, teachers and researchers, partly in order to qualify the network of universities in every part of the country, reducing the gap between southern Italy and the central and northern regions;
- **clean water and sanitation:** launch a National Plan for the Modernisation of Water Distribution Networks to reduce the waste of resources, with early approval of the Draft Law regarding water as a public good and the adaptation of water purification systems to Directive 91/271/EC, in order to improve the quality of receiving water bodies;
- **decent work and economic growth:** adopt new financial instruments and business incubators to encourage the creation of start-ups and spaces for the creative and knowledge economy (FabLab, living lab, makerspace, etc.) using brownfield sites;
- **urban mobility:** adopt a National Action Plan to support cities in achieving the main European objectives, namely significant reductions in the use of traditionally-fuelled cars and road deaths, the establishment of zero carbon urban logistics systems, a significant increase in investment to make up for the delay in providing public transport infrastructure in cities, and implementation of the EU road safety monitoring system;
- **land consumption:** define an action plan agreed between central government and the regions to identify targets for reducing land consumption and monitor its implementation, approve a national law setting out land governance principles, and set up a database of unused public and private building stock which is available for recovery and reuse;

- **air quality:** urgent identification of a national package of measures regarding transport, heating systems and industry; strengthening of local monitoring systems and provision of information to citizens on health risks, taking advantage of consultation experiences at various institutional levels, such as the roundtable on air quality established at the MATTM between the regions and central government regarding the Po Valley;
- **urban green spaces:** recognition of the overall effect of this element as a producer of ecosystem services and a source of biodiversity, with the establishment of a new category of green spaces in urban planning suitable for tackling the climate changes underway, with the introduction of incentives to encourage the maintenance and development of ecological networks, green infrastructure and peri-urban agricultural areas.

As far as infrastructure is concerned, despite some progress, Italy's situation is very worrying, as the tragedy of the collapse of the Morandi bridge in Genoa on 14 August made clear to everyone. **Regarding the motorway network, there are many needs and significant investment is required, in addition to immediate improvement in the monitoring of the state of existing infrastructure.** Studies carried out in various countries show that concrete bridges have a limited lifespan of 50-70 years, and we are putting far greater demands on this infrastructure than was originally foreseen at the design stage, due to the enormous increase in traffic and transported loads, which accelerates the process of structural deterioration. The Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (National Research Council or CNR) estimates that Italy has at least 10,000 suspended structures, for which no centralised register or status and maintenance data currently exist. Given that, due to their age, heavy traffic and the degradation of materials, they could be "at risk", **the highest priority should be given to the construction of integrated monitoring systems, applying "predictive maintenance" techniques to all the works deemed to be close to the end of their useful lives⁴.**

No less important and urgent are interventions relating to other physical infrastructure, such as:

- **actions to increase road safety** via the preparation of a specific national plan for extraordinary maintenance operations. The digital

transformation of existing infrastructure would improve its quality, safety and use, providing data and services that would support the mobility of people and goods, thereby facilitating and simplifying transport;

- **a new framework for planning water infrastructure**, which would enable increased investment to solve major network problems, such as water leaks;
- **the adoption of modern energy-saving technologies and renewable energy generation for public and private assets**;
- **the continuation of investment in airport infrastructure**, thanks to which Italy is registering growth in mobility outside Europe;
- **the development of rail freight transport**, an area in which Italy lags behind its European partners. While high-speed rail has sparked a revolution in passenger transport, we now need a “high-capacity” project to make freight transport more efficient, which would also have a significant impact on reducing harmful emissions;
- **investment in LNG** (liquefied natural gas) **infrastructure**. While private initiatives are responding to land transport needs, action on maritime transport is lacking. In recent years, in agreement with the stakeholders of the freight and passenger transport system, the Ministry for Economic Development has developed a strategic study to assess LNG and infrastructure needs. There is an urgent need to make the necessary decisions as soon as possible to provide ports with infrastructure for the supply and distribution of LNG, both to ships (bunkering) and to road transport.

Finally, support for research and development has increased, but is still insufficient. It is hoped that also in 2019 the **50% tax credit deriving from Law 232/2016, and the bonus for Industry 4.0 research and development and tax credits will be extended and increased**, directing them more to companies that wish to shift towards the circular economy, and increasing the tax benefits for staff training on these issues. In this context, **investment in the digitisation of economic and social processes is fundamental**, partly to create technological and more sustainable smart cities, which have greater energy efficiency, reduce pollution, and optimise services for improved livability and a higher quality of life (Society 5.0).

Social capital, which is essential to transform the socio-economic system towards sustainable development, also depends on the quality of the institutions which are able to generate the “socio-systemic services” that feed and support social wellbeing. In this context, a culture of legality is vital in ensuring such services, while corruption has a negative impact on many fundamental aspects of collective and individual life. Therefore, it is necessary to:

- **continue to raise awareness and educate about legality and the need to fight organised crime**, by providing the most appropriate cognitive tools in schools to learn about and interpret this complex issue;
- create cross-cutting, informal working groups among authorities and civil society organisations **to facilitate information sharing and awareness of the principle of common responsibility for legality**, by disseminating, analysing and implementing the various anti-corruption regulations of both primary and secondary rank;
- **disseminate and promote good practices regarding social responsibility and civic engagement** as emulative factors to combat anti-values such as conspiracy of silence, collusion and opacity;
- draw up a common code of conduct at political and administrative level, which is able to prevent the emergence of corrupt practices and aiding and abetting of mafia organisations, and oversees electoral campaigns;
- in implementation of the principles of the new Procurement Code, **extend the use of legality rating**, partially revising the way it operates, so that it can effectively become a useful tool for preventing the emergence and spread of corruption, including among private individuals, in calls for tenders and tenders relating to public and infrastructural works;
- **decisively implement Law 199/2016 regarding the fight against illegal recruitment of agricultural workers for very low wages** (a crime that harms social justice, dignity and rights) both at the preventive level by activating specific rewards, and by making the control room of the various local commissions operational and efficient.

International cooperation

With the latest Economic and Financial Planning Document (DEF), Italy expects to reach a volume of Official Development Assistance (ODA) of 0.30% of GNI by 2020, but the international commitment is to allocate 0.7% of GNI to ODA. Therefore, it is necessary to increase resources, especially considering that Italy does not meet its commitment to allocate 0.20% to the poorest countries (LDCs). However, it should be borne in mind that more than one third of ODA in 2017 derived from the costs of refugees in Italy. As the flow of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees has decreased considerably between 2017 and 2018, achieving both targets of 0.30% and 0.7% will require greater efforts in managing and allocating ODA funds towards their original purpose of combating poverty and inequalities in developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to counter the use of funds to respond to short-term concerns in the field of security or migration and to define a coherent multi-level approach, including both cooperation in search and rescue at sea, and integration policies (for example, Law 141/2015 regarding social agriculture would be extremely useful in linking migration policy to social and labour inclusion policy, but the lack of implementing decrees and guidelines prevents application of the rules).

A second aspect regards improvement of the planning for Italian cooperation. While in the past the Three-Year Planning and Guidance Document for Cooperation was based more on guidelines than on actual planning criteria, its structure is currently under review in a multi-actor dialogue process. **Future triennial documents should therefore clearly show the link between objectives, priorities, resources and expected outcomes.** In addition, it should be emphasised that sectoral priorities can support an overall sustainable development strategy, but the issue of policy consistency should not apply only to overseas initiatives. Therefore, **it is important that the document should go beyond SDG 17 and integrate coherently with the actions relating to the various Goals that have an impact on international cooperation.**

From this perspective, it is necessary to seek consistency among policies (and public agencies) that support the internationalisation of enterprises, cooperation policies to strengthen the entrepreneurship of partner countries, and policies to strengthen the defence of human and labour

rights. In this regard, **it is important for Italy to support the negotiations underway at the UN regarding the Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights**, although it should be noted that Italy's National Business and Human Rights Plan is little known and not implemented. Moreover, if international trade policies do not have to be at the expense of small businesses, smallholder agriculture and local communities, both in Italy and in partner countries, **then our country should require that respect for the principal conventions relating to human rights, labour and the environment be considered as prerequisites for any trade negotiations.**

A third aspect concerns the way in which international cooperation is implemented. In this regard, it should be noted that:

- funds should be used without imposing any conditions and oriented towards partner countries' national development strategies, ensuring that they are supported by effective dialogue with civil society;
- cooperation should focus on activities that have a "transformative" impact, which promotes environmental inclusion and sustainability, ensuring that the mechanisms supporting private sector engagement in cooperation transparently define roles, responsibilities and expected impacts.

In order to improve the consistency of sustainable development policies, we believe it is necessary to:

- **introduce universal access to water as one of the priorities of Italian cooperation for the "environmental target"** (especially initiatives designed to ensure access to water for human use and for food security in African countries affected by climate change), and approve draft laws that introduce recognition and quantification of the human right to water;
- **relaunch the process for approval of the national law on fair trade**, supplementing it with reform of the third sector and Law 125/2014 regarding international cooperation;
- **speed up the revision by the Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea Protection - a process that has been in progress for more than a year - of the Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC) provided for in the National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement.** "Fair trade" had already been identified by previous

MEC regarding mass catering as a reward criterion, but the new challenge is to consider this criterion as mandatory. At the same time, it is essential that the MEC are disseminated and applied by the majority of contracting authorities, as well as the instruments that define ecological and social standards for public procurement;

- **invest more in digital transformation, innovation in the financial sphere and impact granting for financial transformation;**
- the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation **should update the Guidelines and the Sectoral Guiding Principles in support of the SNSvS objectives identified as priorities for Italian cooperation;**

In terms of actions to be implemented at international level regarding the right to water, we propose that the Italian government should:

- submit a proposal to the Human Rights Council to launch a negotiation process with a view to **adopting legal instruments regarding the human right to water and basic sanitation** (for example, a Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- request the European Commission to: a) include recognition of the human right to water as a universal right of all European citizens in the European Charter of Human Rights; b) support explicit recognition of the human right to water, and not only access to water, in the Drinking Water Framework Directive currently being approved, recognising that member states are entitled to guarantee the human right to water in terms of guaranteed access to the minimum subsistence level, with the possibility of bearing the related cost through general taxation.

In addition, in order to encourage and promote effective partnerships between public, public-private and civil society actors, **local authorities should be requested to adopt the City Charter for the Human Right to Water** as an instrument for implementing projects regarding access to water as a human right in cities. At the same time, approval of new MEC for mass catering, aimed at reducing the social impact of purchasing products defined as exotic (bananas, pineapples, cocoa, cane sugar, coffee), would lead the Italian public

sector to bring itself into line with other European countries in terms of support for disadvantaged producers in developing countries.

Finally, it should be noted that it is very difficult to report ODA flows in the field of nutrition in a transparent way. The nutrition marker⁵ launched by the OECD on a voluntary basis from 2020 will enable more effective assessment and reporting regarding nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programmes. Italy has the opportunity to start using the marker as early as 2019, which would enable us to assess the level of our country's commitment to nutrition programmes and the concrete contribution we make to the implementation of several SDGs.

NOTES

- ¹ According to the IPCC (AR5-WGIII), southern Europe and the Mediterranean area will face the most significant impacts of climate change in the coming decades and will be among the most vulnerable areas on the planet, due to rising temperatures, increased frequency of extreme events (droughts, heat waves, heavy rainfall) and reduced annual precipitation.
- ² Acciari P., Alvarado F., Morelli S. (2018), https://www.forumdisuguaglianzediversita.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Forum_ASVIS-22-Maggio-2018-_Morelli.pdf;
- ³ Regarding these aspects, see the conclusions of the seminar, “Inequalities between and within worlds”, organised on 4 June 2018 by ASviS, the Inequalities Diversity Forum, Acli and Oxfam, as part of the Sustainable Development Festival, <https://www.forumdisuguaglianzediversita.org/le-disuguaglianze-tra-i-mondi-e-nei-mondi-conclusioni/>
- ⁴ Today, technologies and systems are available that allow for the continuous and systematic monitoring of infrastructure. They are much more efficient and effective than cameras, which are used more often for traffic monitoring than for infrastructure monitoring, and whose operation is often influenced by bad weather. Thanks to the wide availability of technologies for data collection, storage and analysis, it is relatively easy to carry out condition-based maintenance and/or “predictive maintenance”, relying on the continuous progress being made in the field of big data and artificial intelligence. In addition to the sensors to be installed on site, drones and satellite technologies that can monitor even small infrastructure movements (such as synthetic aperture radar - SAR) can be used, the cost of which is quite low.
- ⁵ [www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC/STA T\(2018\)41/REV1&doc Language=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DCD/DAC/STA T(2018)41/REV1&doc Language=En)



Appendix: Goals and Targets





Goal 1: NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Targets

- 1.1** By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- 1.2** By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.3** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- 1.4** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance
- 1.5** By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- 1.a** Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions
- 1.b** Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions



Goal 2: ZERO HUNGER

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Targets

- 2.1** By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round
- 2.2** By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons
- 2.3** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment
- 2.4** By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality
- 2.5** By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

- 2.a** Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries
- 2.b** Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export

measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round

- 2.c** Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility

Goal 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

Targets

- 3.1** By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births
- 3.2** By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births
- 3.3** By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
- 3.4** By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being
- 3.5** Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol
- 3.6** By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents
- 3.7** By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

- 3.8** Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
- 3.9** By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination
- 3.a** Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate
- 3.b** Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all
- 3.c** Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States
- 3.d** Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks





Goal 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Targets

- 4.1** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
- 4.2** By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education
- 4.3** By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- 4.4** By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- 4.5** By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations
- 4.6** By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
- 4.7** By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
- 4.a** Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
- 4.b** By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries
- 4.c** By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States

Goal 5: GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Targets

- 5.1** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- 5.2** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- 5.3** Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- 5.4** Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
- 5.5** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life



- 5.6** Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences
- 5.a** Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- 5.b** Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women
- 5.c** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

Goal 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Targets

- 6.1** By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 6.2** By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- 6.3** By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally
- 6.4** By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- 6.5** By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate
- 6.6** By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes
- 6.a** By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies
- 6.b** Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management





Goal 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Targets

- 7.1** By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- 7.2** By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- 7.3** By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

- 7.a** By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology
- 7.b** By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support



Goal 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Targets

- 8.1** Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries
- 8.2** Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors
- 8.3** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
- 8.4** Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic

growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead

- 8.5** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- 8.6** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
- 8.7** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- 8.8** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
- 8.9** By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all

8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries

8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization

Goal 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

Targets

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

9.1 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries

9.1 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

9.1 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

9.1 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending

9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities

9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020





Goal 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Targets

- 10.1** By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average
- 10.2** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
- 10.3** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
- 10.4** Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality
- 10.5** Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations
- 10.6** Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions
- 10.7** Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies
- 10.a** Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements
- 10.b** Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes
- 10.c** By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent



Goal 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Targets

- 11.1** By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums
- 11.2** By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons
- 11.3** By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
- 11.4** Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
- 11.5** By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations
- 11.6** By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

- 11.7** By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities
- 11.a** Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning
- 11.b** By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation

and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

- 11.c** Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials

Goal 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Targets

- 12.1** Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries
- 12.2** By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- 12.3** By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- 12.4** By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment
- 12.5** By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- 12.6** Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

- 12.7** Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

- 12.8** By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

- 12.a** Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production

- 12.b** Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

- 12.c** Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities





Goal 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Targets

- 13.1** Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- 13.2** Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- 13.3** Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- 13.a** Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the

needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible

- 13.b** Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change

Goal 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

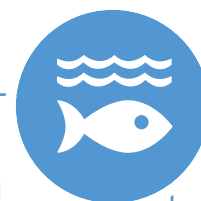
Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Targets

- 14.1** By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- 14.2** By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
- 14.3** Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- 14.4** By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks

in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics

- 14.5** By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
- 14.6** By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
- 14.7** By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism



14.a Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries

14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of “The future we want”

Goal 15: LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Targets

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements

15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species

15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed

15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products

15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species

15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts

15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities





Goal 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Targets

- 16.1** Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- 16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- 16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- 16.4** By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
- 16.5** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
- 16.6** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- 16.7** Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- 16.8** Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
- 16.9** By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- 16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
- 16.a** Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
- 16.b** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

Goal 17: PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Targets

Finance

- 17.1** Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection
- 17.2** Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries
- 17.3** Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
- 17.4** Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress
- 17.5** Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries



Technology

- 17.6** Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism
- 17.7** Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agree
- 17.8** Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

Capacity-building

- 17.9** Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

Trade

- 17.10** Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda
- 17.11** Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020
- 17.12** Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access

Systemic issues**Policy and institutional coherence**

- 17.13** Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence
- 17.14** Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- 17.15** Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

Multi-stakeholder partnerships

- 17.16** Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
- 17.17** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Data, monitoring and accountability

- 17.18** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
- 17.19** By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Printing of the italian version completed
in November 2018
at **Editron** srl - Rome

Graphic design and layout
KNOWLEDGE *for* **B**USINESS

The Report prepared by the Alleanza Italiana per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile (ASviS), now in its third edition, assesses the progress our country has made in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda, adopted by the governments of 193 countries on 25 September 2015. The Report also sets out the areas in which action is needed to ensure the economic, social and environmental sustainability of our growth model.

The Report for 2018, drafted by experts from the Alliance's over 200-member organisations, offers a wide-ranging view of the situation in Italy vis à vis the various aspects of sustainable development. It offers concrete proposals for policies capable of improving people's wellbeing, reducing inequalities and increasing the quality of the environment in which we live. For the first time, the Report also presents indicators showing how each region of Italy ranks with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals.

ASviS was established on 3 February 2016, on the initiative of the Unipolis Foundation and Rome's Tor Vergata University. The Alliance is committed to spreading a culture of sustainability at all levels and aims to raise awareness in Italian society and among economic stakeholders and government institutions of the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. ASviS is the largest network of civil society organisations ever created in Italy and has rapidly become a point of reference for the government and an authoritative source of information on sustainable development issues, made available via the Alliance's website at www.asvis.it and social media. The Festival of Sustainable Development, organised by ASviS in the period between May and June, involved over 700 events throughout Italy in 2018.