



Scene setting: Context of Innovation in Asia and Pacific

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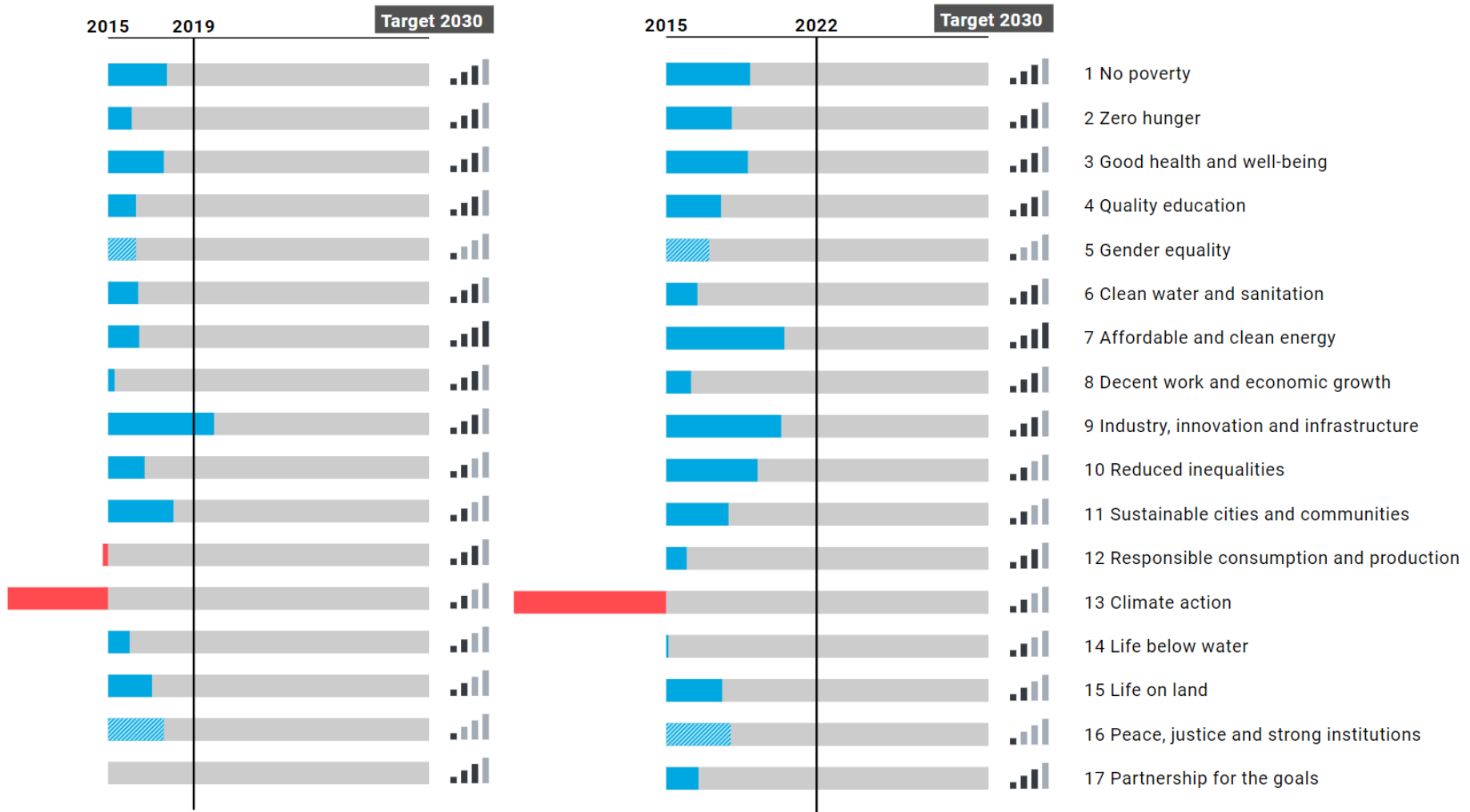
Division of Global Innovation Strategy Research

Nov 16th, 2023



Why does Asia Pacific region matter?

❖ SDGs Progress of Asia Pacific (as of Mar 2023)



Source: UNESCAP(2023). SDG gateway. [https://data.unescap.org/data-analysis/sdg-](https://data.unescap.org/data-analysis/sdg-progress?_gl=1*1f47f75*_ga*MzlyNTE0NzM2LjE2OTk5NTAyNTM.*_ga_SB1ZX36Y86*MTY5OTk1MDI1Mi4xLjEuMTY5OTk1MMDM2Mi40NC4wLjA)

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Why does Asia Pacific region matter?

❖ Climate risk, an urgent threat to the region

- 6 out of top 10 global carbon emitters
- More than half of global GHG
- Highly vulnerable to climate-induced disasters and extreme weather events (ESCAP estimates annual loss to climate-induced disasters in the region \$675 billion)
- Four-fifths of the people who will face flooding in case of a [3°C rise in global temperatures](#).

❖ Efforts to respond the climate risk by establishing NSI

- Diversity in economic development, social, political and cultural conditions
- Developed own and unique NSI for each nation(Korea, US, Japan, China, etc.)
- Difficulty in generalizing the framework of NSI across the region

❖ NSI is a key enabler to drive and accelerate the climate action in the region

- Identify current status and issues regarding NSI with perspectives of climate action
- Collaborate to set the direction and establish
- Share knowledge and experience
- Make the Benefit of innovation > Cost of regulation

❖ Each governments need be more ambitious and act with greater urgency in their STI policies to meet these challenges

What does government need consider?

- ❖ **Different STI Policy framework and practice from the current one**
 - to help direct and accelerate the innovation cycle for low carbon technologies
 - to design policy mixes that enable new markets to emerge, challenge existing fossil-based systems, and create windows of opportunity to break through

- ❖ **Significant level of investment across entire innovation chain**
 - To meet the scale and pace of the net zero transition
 - To place more emphasis on RD&D

- ❖ **Diversify and pool the investments to search, develop and deploy a portfolio of technologies**
 - Technological innovation is inherently uncertain
 - Technologies can interact with one another in unexpected ways

What does STI policy focus?

❖ Encourage public-private partnerships and collaborative platforms

- To accelerate the pace of radical innovation
- Wider society engage in STI processes and policies to coincide with social behavior and lifestyles
- Cross government coordination as policy efforts are distributed across various areas

❖ More international STI cooperation needed

- Global climate change requires collective actions for net zero targets
- Consider barriers of national level of R&D and funding regimes to international cooperation

❖ Reduce gaps in the skills and capabilities of innovation actors

- Firms, governments, research institutes
- Multi-agency approach needed to consider both supply and demand side
- Supports people of working age and communities as part of just transition

THANK YOU

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