

Russian Federation

Voluntary National Review of the progress made in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



2020

Organizations responsible for preparing the Voluntary National Review



ANALYTICAL CENTER
FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

In partnership with



Ministry of Economic Development
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Abbreviations

2030 Agenda – 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

AI – Artificial Intelligence

APEC – Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

APG – Associated Petroleum Gas

ARSNK – All-Russian Society of Nature Conservation

ATM – Automated Teller Machine

AVATRCS – Automated Value Added Tax Refund Control System

BAT – Best Available Technologies

CES – Conference of European Statisticians

CFC – Common Fund for Commodities

CITES – Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

EAEU – Eurasian Economic Union

EDL – Vital and Essential Drugs List

EECA – Eastern Europe and Central Asia

EFSD – Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development

ESIA – Unified Identification and Authentication System

FAO – Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

FATF – Financial Action Task Force

FCC – Federal Center of Competences in Labor Efficiency

FEC – Fuel and Energy Complex

FPS – Faster Payments System

FPU – Floating Power Unit (nuclear)

FSC – Forest Stewardship Council

GHG – greenhouse gases

Helsinki Commission – Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

HEP – Hydroelectric Plant

HIV – Human Immunodeficiency Virus

HSRL – High Speed Rail Line

IAEA – International Atomic Energy Agency

ICMP – International Corruption Monitoring Programme

IDF – Industrial Development Fund

IHR – International Health Regulations

Inter-Agency Working Group – Inter-Agency Working Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development at the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation

INTOSAI – International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions

IOSCO – International Organization of Securities Commissions

IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

MAC – Maximum Allowable Concentration

MFC – Multifunctional Center

MHEP – Minihydroelectric Plant

MOS – Medical and Obstetric Station

MSC – Marine Stewardship Council

NCD – Non-Communicable Diseases

NLA – Normative Legal Act

NPO – Non-Profit Organization

NSR – Northern Sea Route

ODA – Official Development Assistance

OECD NEA – Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

OR – Oil Refinery

RIA – Regulatory Impact Assessment

Rosstat – Federal State Statistics Service of the Russian Federation

RPSA – Renewable Power Supply Agreement

RSPP – Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs

RTC – Resource Training Center

SCO – Shanghai Cooperation Organization

SDG – Sustainable Development Goals

Skoltech – Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology

SME – Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises

SPIC – Special Investment Contract

SPNA – Specially Protected Natural Area

SPP – Solar Power Plant

TWG – Thematic Working Group

UES of Russia – Unified Energy System of Russia

UNAIDS – Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

UNCTAD – United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNDRR – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNESCAP – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNIDO – United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNWFP – United Nations World Food Programme

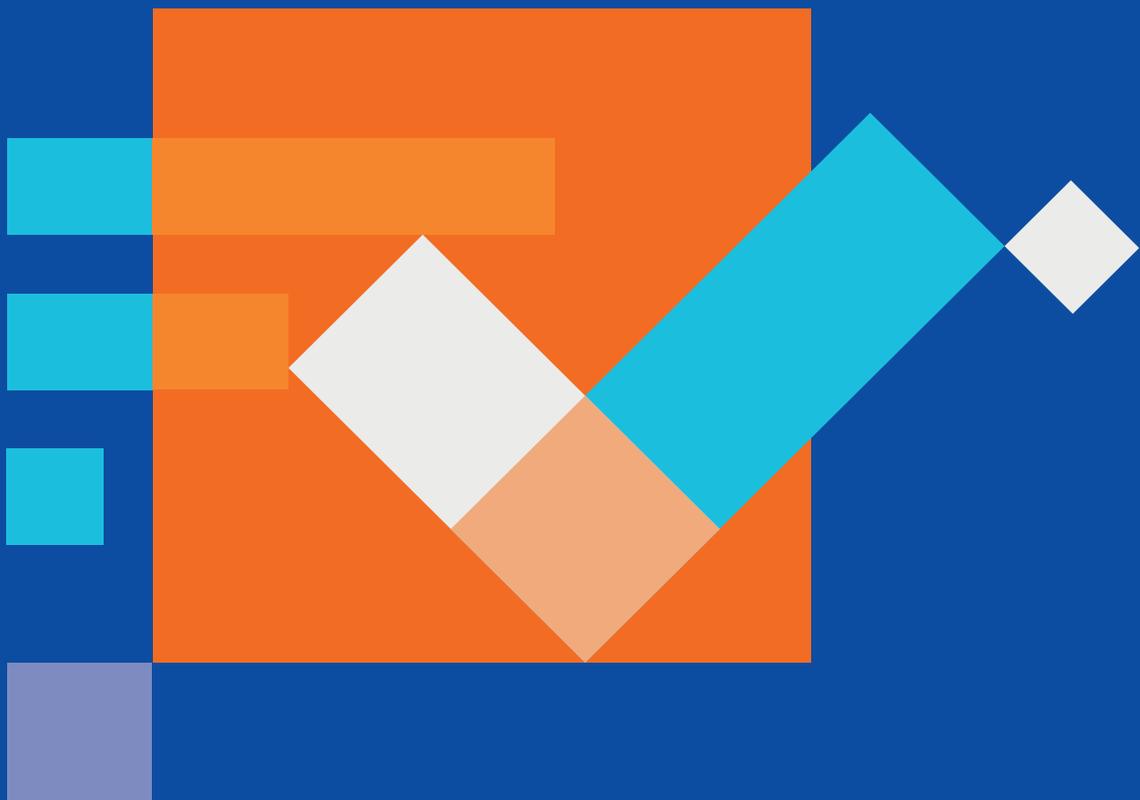
VNR – Voluntary National Review

WHO – World Health Organization

WPP – Wind Power Plant

WTO – World Trade Organization

Summary



The purpose of this Voluntary National Review (VNR) is to assess Russia's progress made in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda).

During the preparation of the Review, it was revealed that most of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets had already been integrated, in a varying degree, in the basic strategic and policy documents of the Russian Federation. The involvement of Russia's civil society, private sector, non-governmental organizations, volunteers, and academic community remains essential for the achievement of SDGs.

In recent years, Russia has demonstrated positive results in each SDG, most successful of them being SDG 1 "No poverty", SDG 4 "Quality education", SDG 8 "Decent work and economic growth". However, the achievement of some targets still requires activation of joint efforts of the government, private sector, and society.

All SDGs are interconnected. Measures implemented to achieve one SDG have an inevitable effect on the achievement of others. For instance, the development of digital economy and telecommunications infrastructure eventually reduces inequalities and produces positive effect on such SDGs, as SDG 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages" and SDG 4 "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all", SDG 8 "Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all". Examples of such interconnection are presented in SDG-specific sections of VNR.

Key SDG-specific findings:



SDG 1 "No poverty". Russia has basically achieved the goal of eradication of extreme poverty. The current nation-wide policy of combating poverty provides for the reduction of the national poverty level at least by half by 2024 (in 2018, the proportion of the poor population with below-the-poverty-line income¹ was 12.6%). This is to be achieved through the implementation of the so-called National Projects, namely "Demography", "Workforce Productivity and Employment Support" and others and development and introduction of new support mechanisms (such as social contract and volunteer services).



SDG 2 "Zero hunger". To promote food security, Russia adopted the respective decree, aimed at providing the population with safe, quality and affordable agricultural products, as well as raw materials and food in volumes, ensuring balanced consumption rates. In 2018, the malnutrition prevalence rate was low: about 1.6% (among persons aged 18 and older), with just 0.3% experiencing severe food insecurity, and 6.2% – moderate or severe food insecurity. Russia's capacity development in respect

¹ The poverty line is defined as the cost estimate of the consumer goods basket plus compulsory payments and collections.

of achieving SDG 2 is promoted by such factors as the development of rural infrastructure, elimination of trade restrictions (in accordance with the obligations under the rules of the WTO) and implementation of comprehensive sectoral strategic programmes.



SDG 3 “Good health and well-being”. Healthy people is one of Russia’s key priorities. In 2019, the mortality rate slid to 12.3 persons per 1000 as against 2015 (13.0) and 2010 (14.2). The mortality rate of working-age population (16–59 for male and 16–54 for female) continues to fall. By 2018, in Russia generally, it dropped to 482.2 or by 11.8% as against 2015 (546.7 deaths per 100,000 population). The life expectancy at birth shows a steady upward trend (72.91 years in 2018 as against 71.39 in 2015; initially estimated 73.34 in 2019).

The achievement of higher life expectancy (up to 78 years by 2024 and to 80 years by 2030) is one of the goals of “Healthcare” National Project, which is focused, among other things, on the development of health care system, reduced mortality from circulatory illnesses and neoplasms, communicable and non-communicable disease control, extension of healthcare infrastructure and the delivery of skilled medical personnel.



SDG 4 “Quality education”. The Constitution of the Russian Federation states that everyone shall have the right to education and that basic general education shall be mandatory. In 2018, the gross enrolment ratio in primary, basic and general secondary education in Russia was 99.9.

Free access to and integrated development of education are the key priorities of the relevant “Education” National Project and some other strategic and policy documents (such as the State Programme “Education Development” aimed at ensuring access to preschool education and increased involvement in extended education programmes). In 2020–2024, more than 667 bln rubles are planned to be allocated to finance the implementation of “Education” National Project.



SDG 5 “Gender equality”. Equal rights and freedoms for men and women are guaranteed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation. In 2019, the level of participation of women in labor force was 55.4% (for men – 70.6%), employment rate – 52.9% (for men – 67.3%), unemployment rate – 4.4% (for men – 4.8%). According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) assessment, Russia is a country with a very high human development level, with the Human Development Index for women being equal to or more than the Human Development Index for men (0.823 against 0.808 in 2017).

To ensure gender equality, Russia has been implementing National Action Strategy for Women 2017–2022 aimed, among other things, at reduction of disparities in men’s and women’s wages (in 2019, the ratio between women’s and men’s wages was 72.1%), reduction of violence against women, and increased number of women in managerial positions

in small- and medium-sized businesses. “Demography” National Project and, in particular, “Promotion of Women’s Employment — Creation of Conditions for Preschool Education for Children Aged under Three” Federal Project is also aimed at the achievement of SDG 5.



SDG 6 “Clean water and sanitation”. In 2018, 90.3% of households had centralized water supply (+3.6 percentage points (p.p.) against 2014); about 77.4% had access to centralized or individual sewerage system (+4.4 p.p. against 2014). The integrated water management approach promotes improved efficiency and sustainable development and management of water resources. Digital water management projects are being developed at the basin and regional and city levels. In particular, the achievement of SDG 6 is one of the goals of “Environment” National Project aimed at increasing the share of population supplied with quality drinking water from centralized water supply systems by 2024 to 90.8%, and the share of the relevant urban population — to 99%.



SDG 7 “Affordable and clean energy”. Russia has a rich resource base and developed power-producing infrastructure. In 2018, 100% of population had access to electric energy, and 86% of households had heating systems. In the Doing Business 2020 ranking Russia was in the top ten in terms of getting electricity at the 7th position.

To ensure universal access to sustainable and modern energy sources, Russia has been implementing the package of national policy measures, including the Energy Security Doctrine of the Russian Federation and the State Programme “Energy Development”. The energy saving and energy efficiency management system continues to be improved through inclusion of relevant targets in industry strategic planning documents at all levels. In 2007–2018, Russia’s GDP grew by 14%, while power consumption decreased by 12%.



SDG 8 “Decent work and economic growth”. A long-term economic growth can only be based on stable and balanced approach. In the reporting period, Russia demonstrated accelerated GDP growth rate (from 0.2% in 2016 to 2.3% in 2018) and growth of household income (the increase in real average monthly wages was 0.8% in 2016 and 2.9% in 2019).

SDG 8 targets are also addressed by other National Projects, such as “Workforce Productivity and Employment Support”, and “Small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative”. National Projects’ goals (cover the period till year of 2024) include acceleration of annual labor productivity growth of medium-sized and large enterprises in essential non-oil economic sectors by at least 5%, growth of SME sector employment by 25 mln by 2024 (15 mln in March 2020), and the rise of SMEs share in national GDP by at least 32.5% [20.2% in 2018]. Also, Russia has been implementing the Action Plan for Acceleration of Capital Investment Growth Rate and Increase of the Capital Investments in GDP (sets the goal as 25%).



SDG 9 “Industry, innovation and infrastructure”. Equal and quality access to infrastructure requires continuous development and modernization. In 2015–2018, freight traffic for all modes of transport increased by 10.3% and reached 5,635 bln tons-kilometers. Passenger turnover of all public transport also increased by 12.1%, constituting 593.6 passenger-kilometers. The priority infrastructure development sectors in Russia include transport, energy production, telecommunication, manufacturing sector and innovations.

SDG 9 progress has substantively benefited from the implementation of the following federal decrees: Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025, Transport Strategy of the Russian Federation 2030, Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of Main Infrastructure, “Safe and Quality Roads” National Project, and “Digital Economy” National Project. These documents particularly aim to increase the share of good-quality urban road network to 85% by 2024 (42% in late 2017) and transport supply in the regions by 7.7% in 2024 comparing to 2017 level. “Digital Economy” National Project incorporates the programme for bridging the digital gap, under which about 5 mln people in nearly 14,000 underpopulated localities (250 to 500 inhabitants) will obtain access to Internet at the speed of at least 10 Mbps by the end of 2021.



SDG 10 “Reduced inequalities”. Russia has been continuously working on reducing inequality both inside and outside the country through development support programmes. The Gini index² for Russia in 2018 was 0.413 (0.421 in 2010; 0.412 in 2015), with the household income distribution by 20-percent groups (quintiles) remaining practically unchanged.

SDG 10 targets are also addressed in “Demography” National Project (financial assistance to families upon the birth of children), “Digital Economy” National Project (bridging of the digital gap), Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025 (narrowing the divide in socioeconomic development of different regions in order to reduce interregional differentiation of the HDI by 3% by 2025), the Accessible Environment State Programme that aims to increase the share of key social, transport, engineering infrastructure facilities accessible for persons with disabilities and other disabilities groups to 70.7% by 2025.



SDG 11 “Sustainable cities and communities”. Russia has been making regular efforts to facilitate the improvement of quality of life and housing conditions. In 2015–2018, the basic housing conditions parameters in the country have shown remarkable improvement. In 2015–2018, the Housing Affordability Index in Russia increased to 128%, while the number of years required for a family of three to accumulate savings to afford an

² Gini index (income concentration index) measures the degree of deviation of the actual overall income distribution line from the line of their equal distribution. The index value may vary from 0 to 1, the higher the value, the more unequal income distribution.

apartment have decreased to 3.2 [calculation is based on the assumption that all the net income would be saved towards the designated purpose].

In 2014–2018, the average rates of urban pollution have decreased, with the solid waste emission from stationary sources in 2015–2018 decreasing by 16.7%, and average annual concentration of suspended solids increasing by 8.3%.

In 2018–2024, the Russian Federation is set to implement “Housing and Urban Environment” National Project, which aims, inter alia: to reduce average mortgage rate to 7.9% and increase the share of people-friendly cities to 60%. National Project is also aimed at housing construction, creating a mechanism of people’s direct participation in the organization of comfortable urban environment and steady reduction of uninhabitable housing. Environmental improvements in Russian cities and populated localities in Russia are one of the targets of “Environment” National Project.



SDG 12 “Responsible consumption and production”. In 2015–2018, the amount of hazard class I waste (acutely hazardous wastes) generated in Russia reduced by 4 times – from 80,000 to 20,000 tons. With the general growth of production and consumer wastes, most of them (98.2% in 2018) are class V waste (the lowest environmental impact).

82% of the Russian cities with more than 100,000 population have separate waste sorting facilities in place; completely separate waste collection has been introduced in 26 Russian cities. The two-container (container for mixed wastes and container for plastic, paper, glass, etc.) separate waste sorting system is used in 45 cities. As a result, in 2019, 18.5% of population had access to separate waste sorting station, or about 2.5 times more than in 2018.

The sustainable production and consumer waste management and reduction of air pollution are among the targets of “Environment” National Project.



SDG 13 “Climate action”. Russia is one of the leaders in the international climate change process, and made a substantive contribution to the global efforts to combat climate change. On 21 September 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation has passed a decree on the acceptance of Paris Agreement. Remarkably, Russia’s ratification of Kyoto Protocol back in 2005 allowed it to enter into force and become the most important step in international efforts to reduce the anthropogenic burden on the climate system of the Earth.

In 2013, the Russian Federation set a national target to reduce by 2020 greenhouse gas emissions to more than 75% in comparison with the 1990 level. According to the national greenhouse gas emission and absorption inventory, in 2017, cumulative emissions were considerably [by 49%] lower

than in the reference 1990 year, inclusive of greenhouse gas emissions and absorption in Land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF), and by 32%, excluding LULUCF. Lower emissions are also facilitated by targeted measures aimed at the modernization of the energy sector, improvement of energy efficiency, and introduction of innovative economic solutions in various industries.

As part of the Paris Agreement implementation process, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the National Action Plan for the first phase of adaptation to climate change for the period up to 2022. Discussions are underway for the composition of the nationally determined voluntary contribution under the Paris Agreement and a draft long-term strategy for diversifying economic development and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. In accordance with the Climate Action Plan, the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation prepared draft Federal Law “On Government Regulation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions” that provides for the establishment of the state system of accounting and control of greenhouse gas emissions by emitters and implementation of voluntary greenhouse gas emissions/absorption reduction projects.

Green financing continues to develop: in 2018 Russia became a country issuing green bonds. As of late April 2020, five Russian companies conducted 8 issues of green bonds totaling 7.55 bln rubles, EUR 500 mln and CHF 250 mln. Those promoted the strengthening of financial base for the implementation of projects in public utilities, energy, transportation and real estate sectors, and were placed on the Moscow Exchange, Irish Stock Exchange, and Swiss Exchange.



SDG 14 “Life below water”. In 2015–2018, the area of specially protected natural areas (SPNA) of federal significance within the territorial zone of Russia increased by 73% (from 10.9 mln hectares as at the beginning of 2016 to 18.9 mln hectares in 2018). Fish biodiversity in coastal marine waters has considerably increased (from 400 species in 2015 to 1,500 species in 2018).

Strategy for the Development of Marine Activities of the Russian Federation 2030 includes, inter alia, the development and preservation of the World Ocean resources; promotion of ecological safety of marine environment and restoration of marine ecosystems, environmental monitoring and comprehensive measures to prevent and mitigate the consequences of the marine pollution.



SDG 15 “Life on land”. Russia’s natural resources potential is one of the richest in the world. Russia has huge reserves of fresh water, forest resources, and large virgin ecosystems with high level and natural dynamics of biodiversity. Russian water and land biological resources contribute significantly to the support of sustainability of the terrestrial biosphere.

In 2015–2018, the area of federal, regional and local SPNA (excluding offshore zones) increased by 11% to 218.2 mln hectares. In 2019, the balance between reforestation zones and logged-off/wasted forest areas has improved by 30% compared to 2015 data and reached 80.6%.

Forest preservation is one of the targets of the State Programme “Development of Forestry”, as well as of Strategy for Development of the Forest Sector of the Russian Federation 2030. Promotion of Russia’s environmental safety is one of the goals of “Environment” National Project (designed until 2024), which, inter alia, provides for the restoration of 23,500 hectares of water source, expansion of specially protected natural reservations area by 5 mln hectares, and the achievement of 100% ratio of reforestation.



SDG 16 “Peace, justice and strong institutions”. The Russian Federation is a law-governed state, where everything is made to ensure that human rights and freedoms are observed, and all social relations are regulated by rules of law and based on the supremacy of law. The efficiency of the legal institutions is sustained through regular improvement of legal interactions, as provided by legislative and regulatory acts, with the prevailing role of the Constitution.

In 2015–2018, the number of violent crimes in the Russian Federation diminished by 33.1%, and the number of reported crimes against the person reduced by 1.4-fold. The number of violent crimes against minors reduced by about 1.75-fold. As a result of the Russian Federation’s activities to prevent money laundering, the suspicious financial flows lowered by 33%.

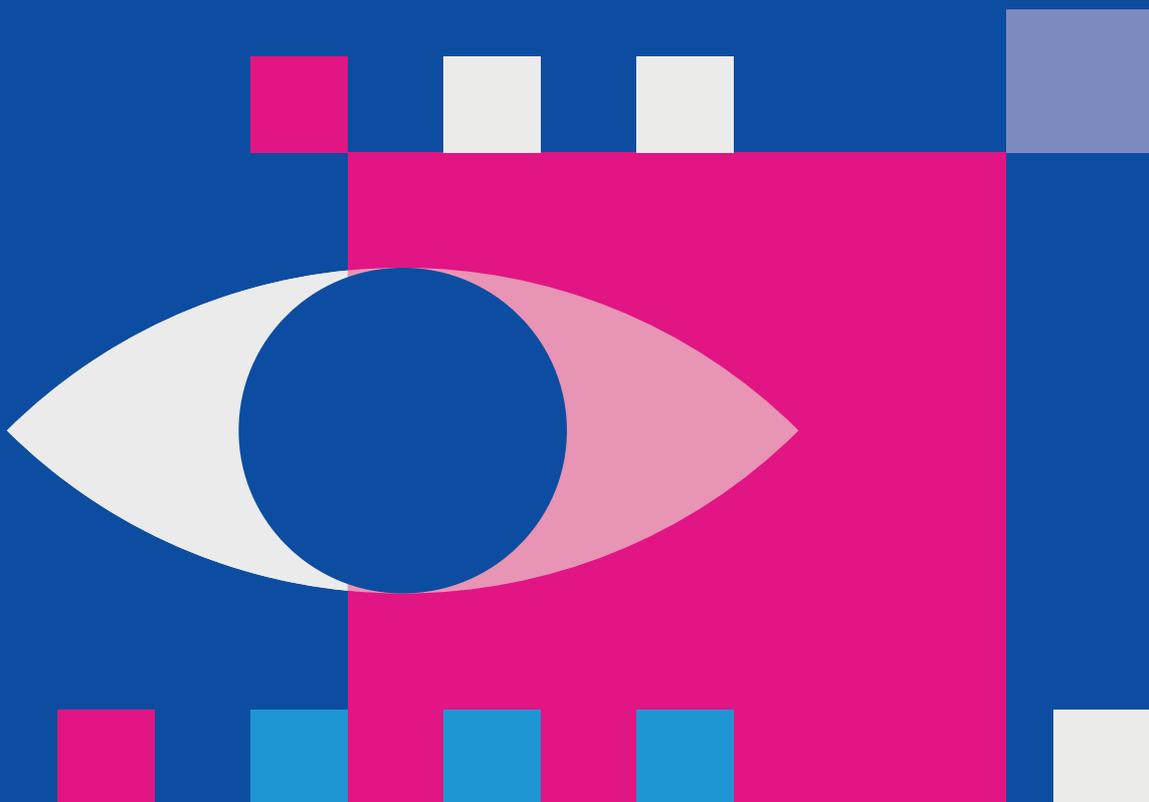
The impetus to the development of multifunctional centers (MFCs), as well as the organization of interagency electronic interaction, digitalization of services and introduction of quality assessment have played a key role in the improvement of the performance of public administration. The satisfaction among population with the services provided achieved 96.6%.

SDG 16 targets are addressed by strategic documents of respective state agencies. Thus, one of the targets of Development Strategy of the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation 2018–2024 is the “strengthening of the culture of openness and transparency of state decision-making, and the development of accountability of government authorities and personal responsibility of executive managers of agencies and organizations before society for the achievement of stated goals and objectives”. SDG 16 targets achievement will also be supported by the activities provided for by national projects, such as “Digital Economy” National Project.



SDG 17 “Partnerships for the Goals”. Russia annually allocates considerable funds for international development assistance. From 2014 to date, they amounted to more than USD 5.5 bln. In 2018, the federal expenditures classified by OECD as the Official Development Assistance (ODA) amounted to about USD 1 bln.

Introduction



The Sustainable Development Goals have been increasingly integrated into the Russian Federation policies, both through inclusion of particular sustainable development goals and targets and some SDG indicators into strategic and policy documents, as well as through the establishment of a sound system of statistical accounting of SDG indicators for their effective monitoring.

This Voluntary National Review is the first attempt of an overall assessment of the status of and progress made in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Russian Federation. The objectives of the Review are:

- to assess the applied institutional mechanisms of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) in terms of their efficiency and sufficiency and the current allocation of functions in the SDG implementation process;
- to assess the extent of SDG integration into national strategic and policy documents;
- to assess the current status of and progress in the achievement of SDGs and identify key successes and challenges in the achievement of SDGs in Russia;
- to promote better public awareness of SDG implementation and stronger partnership of the government, private sector, civil society, and academic community for SDG implementation at the national level.

Russia is a social state and its policies are aimed at the creation of conditions for decent life and free development of a person. Due to Russia's socially oriented policy, considerable achievements have been made in the implementation of the basic principle of the 2030 Agenda: "leaving no one behind". This is the underlying principle of the national policy for ensuring access to socioeconomic, political and other spheres of life for everyone. Particularly the Government of the Russian Federation has established mandatory quotas for employment of persons with disabilities (2% to 4%). Likewise, the development of digital technologies and increased availability of telemedicine, online education, and employment opportunities (including distant employment) have produced positive effect to that end. Digital technologies have an impact not only on the social sphere, but also on economy and environment. For instance, the digitalization of public services makes easier the connection of businesses to electricity networks. Public services for the population have also been digitalized through the specialized "Gosuslugi" Internet portal (Public Services Portal). 152 mln services have been provided by the end of 2019, which is a 2.5-fold increase comparing to 2018. Remarkably, public satisfaction with the public service quality increased from 75.5% in 2012 to 90% in 2018.

Given the vast territory and uneven population distribution (from 0.1 persons per 1 sq. km to 4,900 persons per 1 sq. km), Russia has been focusing on the development of transport infrastructure, which plays a key role in the development of various sectors (industry; agriculture; economic, social and information interrelations between different regions).

The acceptance of the Paris Agreement by the Russian Federation in 2019 became a major event in the global efforts to combat climate change. Russia's full participation in the Paris Agreement, in addition to already effective international mechanisms (including those at the level of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UNDP, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), may become an additional driver for reducing carbon intensity and improving energy efficiency of the national

economy, thus contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals at the global level. In 2020, the Russian Federation adopted the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, which will facilitate the performance of climate obligations through a considerable reduction of extra greenhouse gases consumption.

The body of the Review is divided into 17 sections (one section for each SDG). Each section describes Russia's progress in the achievement of the relevant SDG and SDG-specific implementation mechanisms. Interconnection of SDGs was also addressed. For each SDG, the goal achievement prospects, that is, the challenges faced by the Russian Federation and the ways to solve them, are outlined.

Review preparation methodology and process

This is the first Voluntary National Review of the Russian Federation. The preparation of the Review began in 2019. VNR was prepared in full compliance with the relevant guidelines of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Partners involved in VNR preparation

The coordination of the preparation of the Voluntary National Review, arrangement of expert discussions and elaboration of the main messages were the responsibility of the Analytical Center for the Government of the Russian Federation (Analytical Center).

To prepare the VNR, 17 thematic working groups (TWGs) were formed, one TWG for each Sustainable Development Goal.

TWGs included representatives of federal, regional executive authorities, municipal governments (including through relevant associations), the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, development institutes, civil society associations, research organizations, private sector (unions and associations of enterprises and individual companies) – a total of more than 450 entities, individuals and experts from all over Russia. The VNR preparation directly involved more than 200 experts and over 100 entities, including private sector, civil society organizations, research institutions and government agencies. The list of the key partners is presented in Section “Organizations Involved in the Preparation of the Voluntary National Review” below.

TWGs collected and organized materials and developed draft information materials on the progress made in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals to be included in VNR. Furthermore, draft sections and draft VNR were discussed by experts during series of open public discussions.

The Federal State Statistics Service, which is responsible, inter alia, for generation of official statistical information on SDG indicators in the Russian Federation, provided statistical data and prepared a statistical annex to VNR that included particular SDG indicators for Russia. The complete set of SDG data is presented on the web-portal of the Federal State Statistics Service in the subsection [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Official state and departmental statistical data, data provided by development institutes and research organizations involved in VNR preparation, were also used for VNR.

Integration of Sustainable Development Goals into national policies

Most of Sustainable Development Goals and targets of 2030 Agenda have already been integrated, in a varying degree, in the basic strategic and policy documents of the Russian Federation.

The basic principles of Russia's transition to sustainable development were established in the Concept for the Transition of the Russian Federation to Sustainable Development adopted by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation in 1996. The Concept is targeted at developing balanced solutions to socioeconomic issues and problems related to preservation of favorable environment and natural resources potential to satisfy the needs of the present and future generations.

Therefore, measures aimed at sustainable development and their integration in the strategic and policy documents of the Russian Federation had been realized long before the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

Currently Russia has 12 [National Projects](#) and the Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of Main Infrastructure, which are implemented to achieve the national development goals and strategic objectives of the Russian Federation up to 2024 and actually aimed at SDG achievement. National goals and objectives were endorsed in 2018 by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 204 of 8 May 2019 (Decree No. 204). National Projects were launched in such areas as demography, healthcare, education, housing and urban environment, environment, safe and quality roads, workforce productivity and employment support, science, digital economy, culture, small- and medium-sized enterprise and support for individual entrepreneurial initiative, international cooperation and export. National Projects and the Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of Main Infrastructure cover, directly or indirectly, 107 of 169 SDG targets.

In addition to National Projects, SDG measures and targets have been integrated into other policy and strategic documents of the Russian Federation, including doctrines, concepts, strategies, and state programmes.

Institutional coordination of Sustainable Development Goals

The government authorities of the Russian Federation are implementing policies aimed at the implementation of SDG targets within the available distribution of authority. Coordination of efforts with the focus on SDG climate component is the responsibility of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development at the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation (Inter-Agency Working Group)

established in 2012 by the Executive Order of the President of the Russian Federation.³ The purpose of the Inter-Agency Working Group is to ensure efficient interaction, including information sharing, of federal executive authorities, other public authorities, public associations, research and other organizations in the course of implementation of the state policies related to climate change and sustainable development, including the Concept for the Transition of the Russian Federation to Sustainable Development approved in 1996⁴.

SDG monitoring and coordination of preparation and submission of official statistics on SDG indicators to international organizations is the responsibility of the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat)⁵. In accordance with the Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation, in 2017, subsection 2.8 “Sustainable Development Goals Indicators in the Russian Federation” containing 90 indicators from the Global SDG Indicator List was included in the Federal Plan of Statistical Works.

To coordinate efforts at the national level, the Inter-Agency Working Group established a panel of experts on information and statistical support of Sustainable Development Goals monitoring chaired by Rosstat.

Rosstat is also in charge of the development of the national SDG indicator set. In 2019, it published the statistical yearbook [“Sustainable Development Goals in the Russian Federation”](#).

In 2020, experts and analysts of the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation conducted an audit of the public administration system preparedness for the integration of the 2030 Agenda in 2019–2020, which assessed the extent of the Agenda’s integration into the public administration system, analyzed the provision of public authorities with information technology resources required for its implementation, and assessed the readiness of the system of SDG monitoring in the executive bodies.

³ Executive Order of the President of the Russian Federation No. 563-rp of 13 December 2012.

⁴ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation, No. 440 of 1 April 1996.

⁵ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation, No. 1170-r of 6 June 2017.

Role of different stakeholders in 2030 Agenda implementation

In addition to the government, other stakeholders also take part in the implementation of 2030 Agenda. These stakeholders include non-governmental and non-profit organizations; civil society and youth (including volunteers); academia; and private sector. Only joint efforts of the government and all stakeholders can facilitate the efficient achievement of SDGs.

Non-governmental and non-profit organizations

Non-governmental and non-profit organizations have made a significant contribution into achievement of SDGs in Russia, primarily through the implementation of projects facilitating the achievement of particular SDGs. Such organizations include, inter alia, the Foodbank "Rus", Skolkovo Foundation, Women's Union of Russia, Eurasian Women's Forum, Clean Seas Ecological Fund, Separate Collection NPO, Russian Carbon Fund, WWF Russia, National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children NPO, Eco-Accord NGO, and V. I. Vernadsky Non-Governmental Ecological Fund.

Projects of the above-mentioned organizations are of informational, educational, research or charitable nature. For example, the All-Russian Charity Foundation Foodbank "Rus" on a regular basis cooperates with charitable organizations and state social services. In 2018, the Fund [distributed](#) to lower-income families 5,970 tons of food and non-food aid fit for human consumption. The Fund [cooperates](#) with largest Russian FMCG manufacturers.

More detailed information on projects implemented by non-governmental and non-profit organizations is presented in VNR sections on particular SDGs.

Civil society and youth

General public have their special role in the implementation of SDG measures in Russia. For example, in respect of SDG 11, "Housing and Urban Environment" National Project provides for involvement of the public in building a comfortable urban environment, and decision-making on urban environment development. As for SDG 15 "Life on land", "Environment" National Project provides for involvement of the public in riverbank treatment and shoreline clean-up.

In addition, members of the public are presented in such bodies as the Public Committee for Corruption Control and Implementation of the Programme of the President of the Russian Federation, and the Civil Chamber of the Russian Federation, where they interact with the authorities on matters related to the development and implementation of the national policies.

Another key priority of the social and youth policy of the Russian Federation is the development and support of volunteering. To elaborate a system approach to the development of volunteering in Russia, the Concept of Development of Volunteering in the Russian Federation up to 2025⁶ has been developed.

In respect of the involvement of schoolchildren and youth in the 2030 Agenda implementation, Russia has programmes, such as School SDG Leaders, University SDG Leaders, and Children SDGs ambassadors. As part of their implementation, programme participants promote the ideas and practices of SDG integration into the youth agenda. More detailed information on such movements and programmes is presented in SDG 4 section.

Academia

The academic community, research and education institutions contribute to the achievement of SDGs through introduction of information and education practices and scientific research. In particular, such organizations include the Federal Research Center N. I. Vavilov All-Russian Institute of Plant Genetic Resources; Lomonosov Moscow State University; National Open Education Platform Association established by leading universities: Lomonosov Moscow State University, St. Petersburg Polytechnic University, St. Petersburg University, National University of Science and Technology MISiS, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Ural Federal University, and ITMO University.

In addition to educational and outreach initiatives, the activities of the above-mentioned institutions include, inter alia, the creation of the bank of world genetic resources of cultivated plants and their related wild species, creation of multifunctional network-attached storage of biological material from various geographical zones of Russia and other countries. Case studies and more detailed information on the activities of the above-mentioned institutions are presented in relevant SDG sections below.

Private sector

Russia's business community take an active part in various SDG initiatives. Business projects that promote all sustainable development components — economic, social, and environmental — are implemented either directly by commercial organizations or by business unions and associations. Case studies of business projects that promote the achievement of SDGs are presented in boxes in the relevant SDG sections throughout report.

Globally active Russian companies have already efficiently integrated SDGs in their strategies. Russian business' awareness of the importance of sustainable development was underlined by 2019 PwC survey, according to which 66% of respondents — board members of Russian companies — believe that the corporate policies should be brought into line with SDGs.

The UN Global Compact Russia (UNGC) unites more than 50 Russian companies and institutions operating almost in all Russian regions, including major global actors, such as Rosneft Oil

⁶ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 2950-r of 27 December 2018.

Company PJSC, VEB.RF, UC RUSAL, Severstal PJSC, Nornickel, RusHydro Group, Sistema PJSC, Russian Railways (RZD), Lukoil PJSC and Polymetal PLC. Two Russia-based companies, Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd. and PhosAgro, have LEAD status in UNGC on a par with 34 other global companies.

The Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP) developed the toolkit for practical application of responsible business conduct principles, improvement of business transparency, introduction of business culture best practices (including provision of jobs, decent working conditions, improved performance, etc.). [The Social Charter of the Russian Business](#), the national document adopted by the business community, contains a code of responsible business practice principles based on the UN Global Compact. The Register of Social Charter corporate members includes more than 250 voluntarily affiliated entities. Other RSPP-implemented initiatives include, among others:

- the [Corporate Practices Library](#) (containing the best practices of more than 200 companies, including practices in the field of professional development and social support of employees, small- and medium-sized business support programmes, etc.);
- the [National Registry and Library of Corporate Non-Financial Reports](#) (including corporate public reports used, in particular, for indexing and ranking of companies);
- annual [sustainable development indexing](#) based on public reporting of 100 major companies to identify leaders in sustainable development (two indices⁷ – “Responsibility and Openness” and “Sustainable Development Vector” – are included in the relevant international index and ranking database, The Reporting Exchange);
- a joint project with the Moscow Exchange for calculation of stock sustainable development indices;
- [engaging in global cooperation](#) with the International Labor Organization and International Organization of Employers.

⁷ Information on the indices is also presented in SDG 8 section.

COVID-19 response in the Russian Federation



To develop measures to prevent COVID-19 appearance and spread in the Russian Federation, on 27 January 2020, the Government [established](#) the Emergency Response Center. On 14 March 2020, Prime-Minister Mikhail Mishustin [chaired](#) the COVID-19 Coordination Council to Control the Incidence of Coronavirus Infection in Russia, which on a daily basis produces decisions and coordinates actions aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19 and its potential impact.

In Russia, necessary restrictions and support measures are intended to limit the spread of COVID-19, provide assistance to those who need medical supervision and treatment, and reduce adverse economic, financial and social impact on population and private sector, including SMEs. Some measures taken in the Russian Federation and SDGs the achievement of which is connected with the implementation of such measures are presented below.

Anti-crisis plan



On 17 March 2020, the Government of the Russian Federation [approved](#) the Plan of High-Priority Measures (Actions) to ensure the sustainable development of the economy in the context of the deterioration of the situation due to COVID-19. This Plan includes, inter alia, the following activities (by four key implementation areas).

1. Provision of essential goods and support of population:

- prompt monitoring of consumer prices at the regional level;
- development of a mechanism for maintaining adequate supply of socially important products in retail outlets, including subsidizing the interest rate on credits taken to build up surplus inventories (if necessary);
- prompt monitoring of availability of essential commodities in retail outlets, also at the regional level (food, goods for children, medicines, medical goods, disinfectants and individual protection means);
- prompt monitoring of labor market in the regions of the Russian Federation, including company towns;
- increased budget allocations for subventions from the federal budget to regional budgets to provide social benefits to persons duly recognized as unemployed (if necessary).

2. Support of industries at risk:

- allowing credit organizations not to decrease the assessment of debt service quality irrespective of the assessment of the financial position of borrowers from at-risk industries in respect of loans restructured in connection with COVID-19;

- financial support of transportation organizations that suffered from deterioration of the situation due to COVID-19, including compensation for losses;
- support of cultural centers, fitness and sports centers facing declined flow of visitors;
- subsidizing the interest rate on developers' credits within project financing in case of falling sales rates in the primary housing market.

3. Support of small- and medium-sized enterprises:

- moratorium on inspections of SMEs, including tax inspections, except inspections in case of life and health risks;
- subsidizing a portion of interest on credits of SMEs to credit organizations in case of the extension of the due date for interest payment without any penalties;
- temporary grace period for (or moratorium on) rental payment by SMEs-tenants of state or municipal property;
- increased capitalization of regional microfinance organizations to grant preferential microloans to SMEs;
- reduction in collateral requirements of the contract in public procurement from SMEs.

4. System-wide measures:

- establishment of the guarantee fund for restructuring credits of companies adversely affected by the deterioration of the situation due to COVID-19;
- creation of the list of organizations essential for the Russian economy;
- prompt monitoring of the financial and economic performance of organizations essential for the Russian economy.

Non-working days due to self-isolation regime. Liability for violation of quarantine and self-isolation

SDG 3

SDG 16

SDG 8

SDG 4

To ensure sanitary and epidemiological welfare of the population, the President of the Russian Federation [declared](#) non-working days with pay from 30 March to 3 April 2020. The non-working days period was then [extended](#) up to 30 April 2020 and later up to 11 May 2020. The above did not apply to:

- healthcare providers, pharmacies, and organizations that need to sustain constant operations;

- organizations selling food and essential commodities;
- providers of urgent repair and handling services and urgent services for ensuring normal living conditions.

Furthermore, government and local authorities, and mass media also continued to operate, including distant working unless it precludes the performance of employment duties. If employment duties require turning up to work, such persons were urged to follow COVID-19 prevention [recommendations](#).

To ensure high quality of education irrespective of the existing situation, Russian schools and universities now temporarily apply online learning mode using advanced digital technologies. The Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation [recommended](#) to use free federal ([Russian Electronic School](#), All-Russian Open Lesson, “[Proectoria](#)” early vocational guidance project, [Sirius Education Center](#)) and regional (for example, [Moscow Education TV Channel](#), [Moscow Regional Digital College](#)) educational online platforms available to all schoolchildren, students, teachers and parents.

To ensure equal opportunities, people are provided with the access to Internet services on a vast range of issues arising in the context of quarantine (health, delivery, education, entertainment, technologies, domestic needs, etc.), such as [все.онлайн](#) (Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation), [home.mail.ru](#) (Mail.ru Group), and [доступвсем.рф](#) (Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation).

Furthermore, to support vulnerable groups, the Volunteers-Medical All-Russia Public Movement, Association of Volunteer Centers and All-Russia People’s Front launched the “[#МыВместе](#)” mutual assistance action. Assistance includes purchase and delivery of essential goods; psychological and legal support; facilitation of interaction with healthcare organizations and technological assistance. Similar services are provided under [Агрегатор добрых дел](#) (Good Deeds Aggregator) (Department of Labor and Social Protection of Population of Moscow), “[@добро](#)” (Mail.ru Group) and other projects.

As COVID-19 is [included](#) in the list of diseases that pose a danger to others, the violation of quarantine may give rise to administrative or criminal liability in case of drastic consequences. The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation also [provides](#) for liability for public dissemination of misleading information about the circumstances that pose a threat to life and security or about measures taken to ensure security of people and territories, and methods and practices of protection against such circumstances.

Limitation of flights and state border crossing. Russian humanitarian aid and assistance to foreign partners in combatting COVID-19

SDG 3

SDG 17

From 27 March 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic, Russia completely [stopped](#) charter and regular flights to/from all other countries. From 4 April 2020, to limit a new wave of imported cases, international flights to evacuate Russians from other countries were temporarily suspended.

However, those who wish to return to Russia are still invited to fill-in a special [form](#) on the official state services Internet portal. Those flights were resumed from 6 April 2020.

Entry into Russia of foreign nationals and stateless persons has been temporarily [restricted](#). From 30 March 2020, state border crossing through road, railway, river and mixed crossing points (including land section of the Russia-Belarus border) has been temporarily [restricted](#).

In 2020, the Russian Federation repeatedly provided humanitarian aid to foreign countries (including Italy, China, the U.S., and Serbia), and to CIS countries (including Armenia, Belarus, Moldova, and Uzbekistan) to combat COVID-19. Humanitarian supplies included face masks, gloves, safety glasses, protective clothing, as well as medical equipment and COVID-19 test systems. In addition to humanitarian supplies, specialists, such as military medics and virologists, were sent to some countries ([Italy](#), [Serbia](#)). Furthermore, in April, the Russian Federation made a voluntary special-purpose contribution to the World Health Organization (WHO) of USD 1 mln to combat COVID-19.

Plan of Additional Measures (Actions) to ensure sustainable economic development

On 16 April 2020, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the Plan of Additional Measures (Actions) to ensure sustainable economic development in the context of deterioration of the situation due to COVID-19. The Plan includes a package of measures to support population and private sector.

1. Sanitary and epidemiological measures:

SDG 3**SDG 10**

- increased wages and insurance guarantees for healthcare workers potentially contacting with persons infected with (or have symptoms of) COVID-19 (80,000 rubles for medical doctors, 50,000 rubles for nursing staff and 25,000 rubles for medical attendants);
- additional equipment (re-equipment) of new and restored hospital beds.

2. Social support measures:

SDG 8**SDG 1****SDG 4**

- provision of direct non-reimbursable financial assistance (grant) to SMEs in the worst-affected sectors to address current urgent needs (including payment of wages) in April and May 2020;
- extension of the non-interest-bearing credit programme for wage payment to companies in the worst-affected economic sectors, with at least 75% of such credits secured by guarantees of the state development corporation VEB.RF;

- increased monthly unemployment allowances to be paid in April-June 2020 to dismissed and registered as unemployed after 1 March 2020 persons, up to one minimum wage;
- additional monthly payments in April-June 2020 of 3,000 rubles per child to families with unemployed parents;
- development of online learning programmes.

3. Support of SMEs:

SDG 8

- social insurance premium payment adjournment by 6 months for all SMEs in the worst-affected sectors (earlier, only for micro-enterprises);
- approval and updating, based on continuous monitoring, of the list of the worst-affected sectors to provide state support;
- one year (from 1 October 2020 to 1 October 2021) restructuring of tax payments formed during the period of 6-month deferral for SMEs in the worst-affected sectors;
- deferral of tax payments (except for VAT) for shopping centers for 6 months to support SMEs-tenants.

4. General support measures:

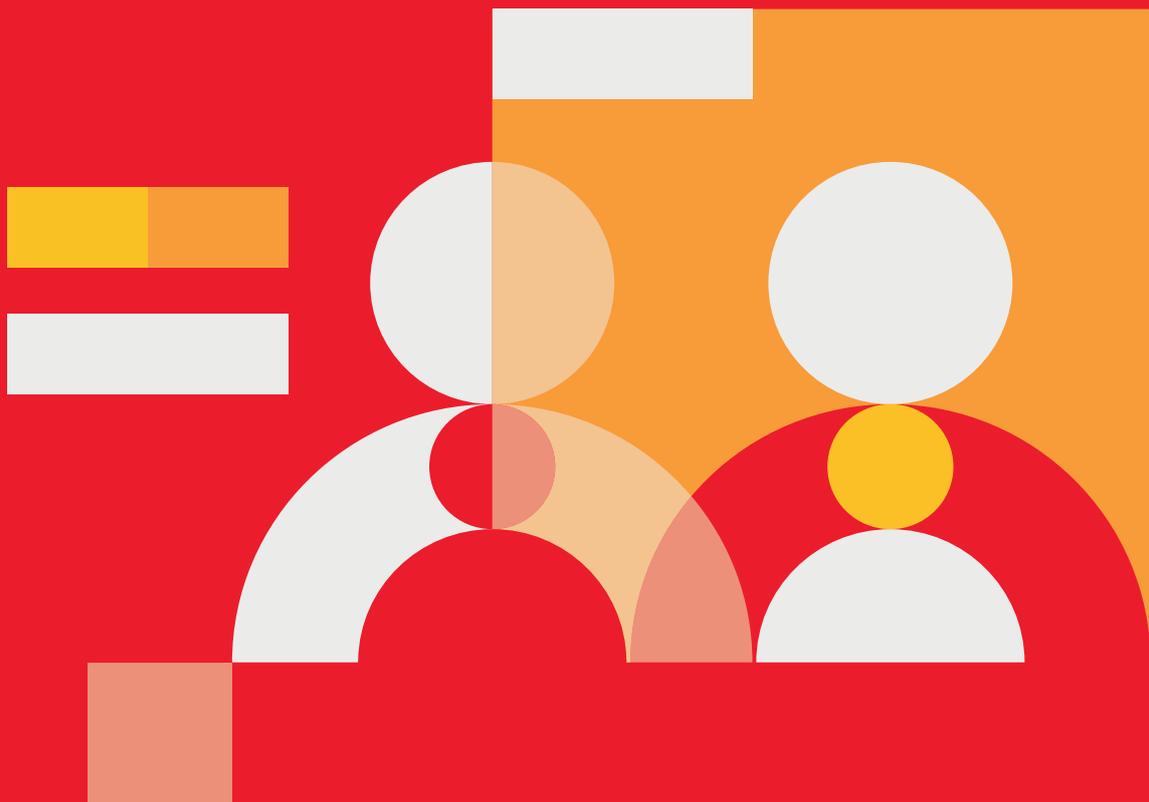
SDG 9

- support of organizations essential for the Russian economy (preferential credits to create a monthly amount of working capital and to maintain employment), including air carriers;
- simplified procedure for conclusion of one-year government procurement contracts in 2020, including due to reduced contract security requirements; easing of requirements for procurement by companies with state ownership;
- postponement of effective dates of particular normative legal acts (NLA) (so-called “costly” laws);
- additional financial support to regions of 200 bln rubles;
- support of industrial import substitution programmes to underpin demand.

In addition, the Government of the Russian Federation has been developing a package of measures to revitalize and normalize economic activity in the context of gradual removal of COVID-19-related limitations.

SDG 1

End poverty in all its forms
everywhere



Eradicate extreme poverty and reduce the proportion of population living in poverty (Targets 1.1 and 1.2)

The World Bank sets the extreme poverty threshold at less than USD 1.25 per day (PPP). In 2015, the World Bank raised the poverty line to USD 1.90 per day. From 2017 two more lines have been added: USD 3.20 and 5.50. In Russia, there are only few citizens with such low income. In 2017, the share of people with per capita after-tax income less than USD 3.20 per day constituted 0.1% of the total population, less than USD 5.50 per day – 1.0%, less than USD 10 per day – 6.2%⁸.

The low income category in Russia is formed with the people who receive per capita income less than the minimum subsistence level. Poverty line is defined as the cost estimate of consumer goods basket⁹, plus compulsory payments and duties.

In 2018, there were 18.4 mln persons with substandard cash income, or 12.6% of total population (see Statistical Annex). During 2018 as many as 500,000 were relieved from poverty. According to 2019 preliminary estimates, the number of people with cash income lower than the minimum subsistence level was 18.1 mln, or 12.3% of total population.

In 2000–2017 the poverty structure considerably changed. While in 2000 the poor included many pensioner families, childless and one-child families, in 2017 a total of 81% of low-income households were households with children under 18 years of age. In recent years, the share of families with two or more children in low-income households has increased. Though the proportion of able-bodied population in low-income population is high, their share in low-income households has been gradually declining in recent years (Figures 1.1, 1.2).

In 2019 the household income stagnation trend discontinued. At the end of 2019 real disposable household income increased by 1% compared to the previous year (in 2018–0.1%).

Information on the distribution of population with per capita cash income lower than 40%, 50%, 60% of the median level is presented in SDG 10 section.

⁸ Federal State Statistics Service data.

⁹ The minimum food package necessary for human health maintenance and life support, and non-food products and services the cost of which is determined in relation to the cost of the minimum food package.

FIGURE 1.1. POVERTY STRUCTURE CHANGES IN RUSSIA

Rosstat / % of total number of poor households

- Households with children under 18 years of age
- Households with 2 children under 18 years of age
- Households with 3 and more children under 18 years of age

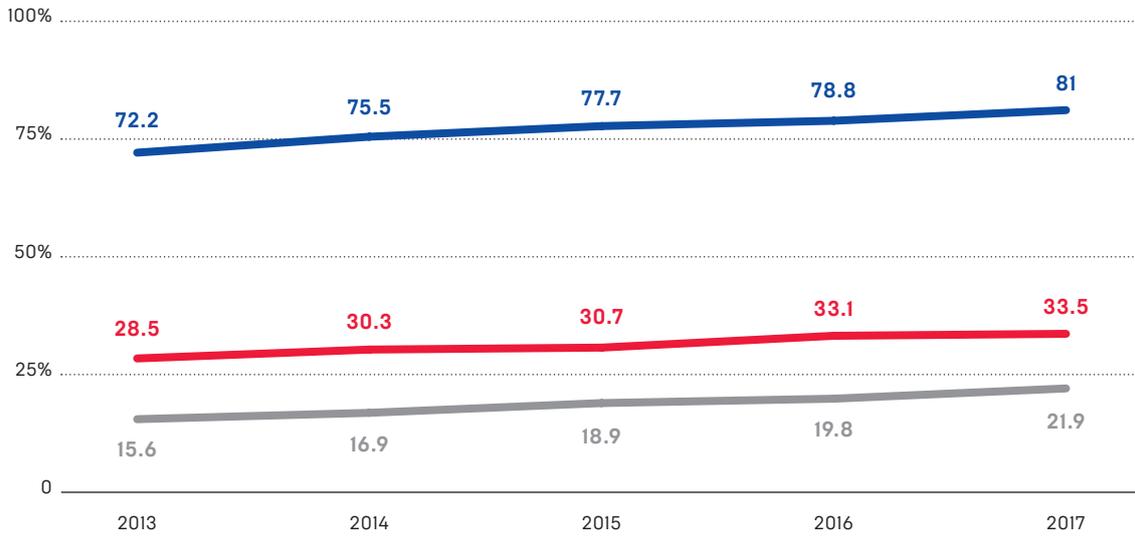
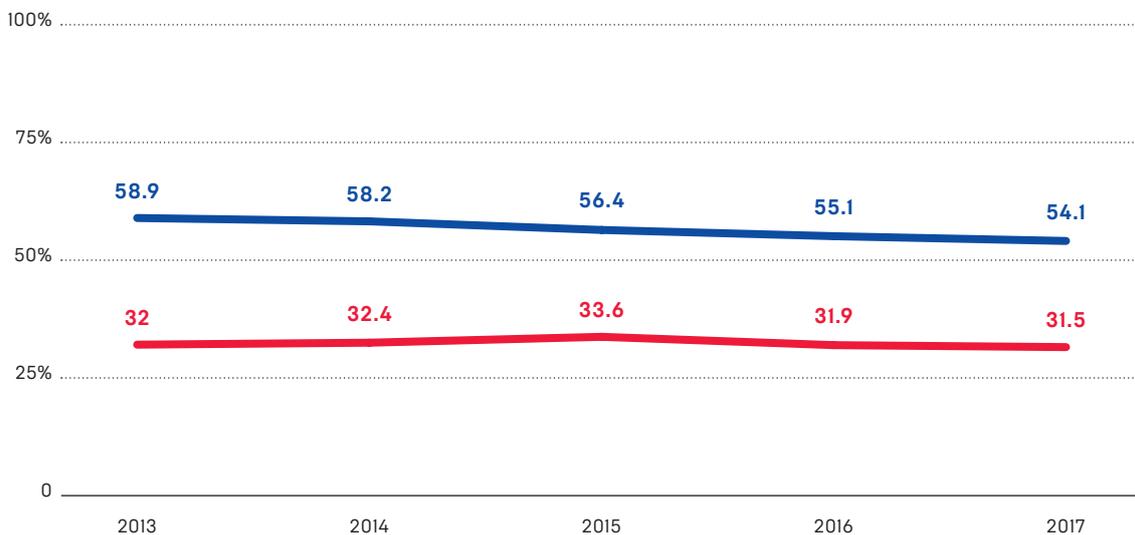


FIGURE 1.2. POVERTY STRUCTURE CHANGES IN RUSSIA

Rosstat / % of total number of poor households

- Low-income population of working age
- Low-income employed population



Implement social protection systems, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, and build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations (Targets 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.b)

Russia implements multiple social protection systems under which individual population groups (veterans, persons with disabilities, poor citizens, retired people, unemployed, etc.) may receive assistance from the state. Social support measures are divided into categories, such as pensions, housing preferences, medical benefits, travelling allowances, tax benefits, where the most vulnerable population groups may be exempt, in whole or in part, from particular fees and payments (taxes, transport fares, payment for housing and public utility services and others), and be entitled to priority provision of some services (enrolment in universities, provision of housing, early retirement, etc.).

The unified plan for achieving the national development goals of the Russian Federation for the period until 2024 adopted by the Government of the Russian Federation on 7 May 2019 provides the following poverty reduction measures:

- target support of lower-income families with children;
- promotion of employment of women who attend to children;
- expansion of need assessment-based support;
- registration of poor families in need of state social assistance on the regional level, and development and approval of special regional programmes aimed at reducing the population with substandard income.

As families with children constitute the largest group of the poor in Russia, the focus in poverty reduction is made on relieving from poverty families with children.

Social support measures for families with children are established on the federal and regional levels. The state benefits system for families with children at the federal level is established by the Federal Law "On State Benefits for Citizens with Children"¹⁰. Both working and non-working persons are entitled to state maternity and childcare benefits¹¹.

¹⁰ Federal Law No. 81-FZ of 19 May 1995.

¹¹ More detailed information on social support measures for families with children is presented in the [2018 Country Report on Children and Families with Children in the Russian Federation](#).

FIGURE 2. STATE MATERNITY AND CHILDCARE BENEFITS AND THE MATERNITY CAPITAL PROGRAMME IN 2020

State maternity and childcare benefits

18,004.12 rubles (~\$245) in 2020

One-time birth grant

In case of birth of two or more children, the grant is paid for every child. For persons working in the Far North, a regional coefficient is applied

Equivalent to regional minimum subsistence level for children

Monthly payments upon birth of the first and second child

If the per capita family income does not exceed the double minimum subsistence level for able-bodied population established in the relevant constituent territory of the Russian Federation

40% of the average wage of the carer parent

Monthly childcare allowance

Paid from the date of the leave to attend to a child up to the age of eighteen months



Special payments to families with a child with disabilities

Maternity capital: new options and size as from 2020

616,617 rubles (~\$8,000)

Maternal capital for families with the second child born or adopted after 2020

And for the third, fourth and any next child, if not entitled to maternal capital before

466,617 rubles (~\$6,000)

Maternal capital for families with two children born or adopted from 2007 to 2009

466,617 rubles (~\$6,000)

Maternal capital for families with one child born or adopted after 2020

Additional 150,000 rubles (~ USD 1,900) upon birth of the second child



The maternal capital programme has been extended up to the end of 2026

From 2007 the maternity capital programme has been implemented and continuously improved (Figure 2). Families with child born or adopted are entitled to such payment¹². The maternity (family) capital is paid from the federal budget as part of additional state support measures for families and may, in whole or in part, be [used](#) for education of children; improvement of housing conditions of the family; cumulative part of mother's pension; social adaptation and integration of children with disabilities.

The regions of the Russian Federation may establish additional payments upon birth of a child. For instance, persons who have registered place of residence in Moscow may be [entitled](#) to: additional one-time maternity benefit for young families; one-time compensation payment for reimbursement of expenses in connection with the birth (adoption) of a child. In addition, low-income families with per capita income equal to or less than the regional minimum subsistence level are entitled to allowance for children aged from 3 to 7 years of age.

Russia has the "social" entrepreneurship system that is aimed at the achievement of socially useful objectives and addresses social problems of individuals and society in general, such as boosting employment of individual population groups (pensioners, children's home leavers, persons with disabilities) and better accessibility of particular goods and services. An important instrument for the implementation of the above social support measures is the provision of state support to "social" enterprises that have established employment quotas for socially protected categories (at least 50% of the overall number of employees, and at least 25% of the overall payroll). Also, Russia has been implementing the practice of promotion of employment of persons with disabilities, which is described in more detail in SDG 8 section.

Measures to promote employment of women and older persons in Russia are describe in detail in SDG 5 and SDG 10 sections, respectively.

The Russian Federation has introduced such form of state social assistance as social contract. "Social contract" is an agreement between an individual and social protection authority under which the social protection authority obliges to provide state social assistance to the individual, and the individual – to fulfil the social adaptation programme (mandatory sign-up for job enrollment programs, job training and/or professional education; engagement into individual entrepreneurship, development of private farm holding) (Figure 3).

Travelling costs form an important part of people's expenditures. Therefore, efficient operation of socially responsible transport contributes to the overcoming of the poverty threshold and reduces disbalance in consumption and distribution of wealth and services. Many regions and cities provide for benefits or compensations for the use of public transport by various population groups. The right of regions to provide travel privileges to people living within their territory is provided by legislation¹³.

Furthermore, the Labor Code of the Russian Federation provides for the possibility of reimbursement of the cost of travel and luggage transportation for vacation leave for workers deployed in Far Northern region of the Russian Federation and areas with equal status.

¹² Federal Law. No. 256-FZ of 29 December 2006, Federal Law No. 35-FZ of 1 March 2020.

¹³ Federal Law No. 220-FZ of 13 July 2015.

FIGURE 3. STATE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER SOCIAL CONTRACT

[Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation]

State social assistance under the social contract**Goals:****1****Fulfillment of labor potential
of beneficiaries****2****Improved level and quality
of life of low-income people****3****Social rehabilitation
of low-income family members****4****Strengthening of beneficiaries
social responsibility****In 2018:****104,300
social contracts**were concluded, of them 62,600 (60%)
with low-income families with children
under 16 years of age**308,800 people**received state assistance under social
contracts, of them 40% urban dwellers,
and 60% rural people**19,500 persons (33,3%)**could cope with a difficult life situation
under social contracts**103,000 persons (35,1%)**of poor people improved their material
well-being and were relieved from
poverty under social contracts**Has been implemented in all regions since 2012**

In 2019, Russia [had](#) 138 subsidized regional domestic air routes. Besides, the state provides support from the federal and regional [budgets](#) for reduced fare of free transportation by different modes of transport for more than 10 population categories in all of the country's regions.

The goals related to poverty reduction and social protection are also part of National Projects ("Demography" and subprojects (Federal Projects) – "Financial Support to Families Upon Birth of Children", "Promotion of Women's Employment – Creation of Conditions for Preschool Education for Children under Three Years of Age", "Senior Citizens", – as well as "Employment Support and Improvement of the Labor Market Efficiency to Increase Labor Productivity" Federal Project within "Workforce Productivity and Employment Support" National Project).

National Projects, such as "SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative", "Education" and state programmes of the Russian Federation such as "Economic Development and National Economy", "Promotion of Employment", also contribute to growth of cash incomes and, accordingly, reduction of poverty.

Mobilization of resources in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries to implement programmes and policies to end poverty (Target 1.a)

The main component of Russia's assistance to developing countries with regards to ending poverty is debt relief under the Initiative to Provide Assistance to the Poorest Countries with Heavy Debt (e.g. waiving of major debts of African countries in the amount of more than USD 20 bln).

In 2014–2017 under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Russia had been implementing projects aimed at socio-economic development of CIS countries and regions, in particular, financed the project to improve the well-being of the population in nine districts of [Tajikistan](#) (assistance was provided to district authorities in efficient planning and control of socio-economic development, support of development of favorable investment climate, entrepreneurship and employment, support of rural initiatives) – to the total amount of USD 6.7 mln.

Another significant SDG 1 activity is the provision of humanitarian aid and assistance in healthcare and education. In particular, Russia takes an active part in [tackling problems in African countries](#): provides inputs into the international development programmes in Africa of the World Health Organization (WHO), and World Food Programme (UNWFP). African states are provided with assistance in healthcare, and African civil specialists continue to get education and training in Russian institutions of higher education.

Russia has also given an impetus to project activities within the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). Russia's 2016 contribution of USD 1 mln stimulated the development of the BSEC regional SDG databank, assistance to small- and medium-sized entrepreneurship and raising of additional voluntary financing for the purpose.

More detailed information is also presented in SDG 2, SDG 3 and SDG 17 sections.

Looking forward

Russia's social policies are focused on the provision of target support to families with children. The Russian Federation has been providing federal subsidies for mothers with more than one child, which was later, starting from 2020, expanded to women having their first child. "Demography" National Project envisages financial support to families upon the birth of children, as well as the promotion of employment of women-caregivers (including retraining and further training of women during the maternity leave to take care of children up to the age of 3 years, and creation of additional places in preschool education facilities).

This social policy focus is dictated with the fact that families with children constitute the largest group in the population with income below minimum wage. The implemented measures are aimed at preventing the risk of "poverty trap", where children from poor families do not have adequate access to quality education, healthcare and other social benefits and core services, which in turn compromises their positions on the labor market, provoking low economic activity or even unemployment.

SDG 2

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



End hunger and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round (Target 2.1)

The state agricultural policy of the Russian Federation is aimed at ensuring year-round prevention of hunger and all forms of malnutrition. In 2018, the vast majority of the population of the Russian Federation were food secure: severe [food insecurity](#) was experienced only by 0.3% of the population, while moderate or severe accounted for 6.2%.

The strategic goal of the 2020¹⁴ Food Security Doctrine of the Russian Federation¹⁵ is to provide the population with safe, quality and affordable agricultural products, raw materials and food in volumes ensuring the balanced food consumption rates.

In addition to that, there is an ongoing intergovernmental process within the EAEU which is based on agreed directions and measures and pursues the goal of a coordinated and mutually acceptable agro-industrial policy of the Union.

In terms of social and food security significance priority is given to the following sectors of cattle breeding: dairy and specialized beef production, as well as plant forage base development.

In [2015–2018](#), staple food production in the Russian Federation had been increasing: production of meat and by-products increased by one third to 8.1 mln tons in the indicated period, prefabricated meat – by 13.8% to 3.3 mln tons, vegetable oils – by 25.5% to 5.9 mln tons, pasta products – by 16.7% to 1.4 mln tons, and cereals – by 7.1% to 1.5 mln tons.

In 2018, Russia [fulfilled](#) most of the staple food self-sufficiency targets established in the Food Security Doctrine¹⁶: for cereals – 147.2% (target – 95.0%), sugar – 112.6% (80.0%), vegetable oil – 198.4% (80.0%), meat and meat products – 95.7% (85.0%), fish and seafood – 158.5% (80.0%), potatoes – 95.3% (95.0%). In the 2020 Food Security Doctrine, the targets for some products were increased: for sugar and vegetable oil – to 90.0%, for fish and seafood – to 85.0%. Also, new targets were added: for vegetables and melons and gourds – no less than 90.0%, fruit and berries – no less than 60.0%, seeds of basic crops of domestic selection – no less than 75.0%.

The national food quality management system in the Russian Federation is based on Strategy for Improving the Quality of Food Products in the Russian Federation 2030. The Strategy is targeted at ensuring efficient nutrition, disease prevention, life expectancy increase and improving the quality of life of the population, promotion of the development of production and market circulation of proper quality food products.

In 2019, the Russian Federation adopted Long-Term Development Strategy of the Grain Complex 2035. The purpose of the Strategy is to create a high-performance, research-oriented and innovation-

¹⁴ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 20 of 21 January 2020.

¹⁵ The Doctrine includes the recommendations of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on the maximum share of imports and stocks of food resources.

¹⁶ Food independence (self-sufficiency) is defined as the self-sufficiency percentage level calculated as the ratio of domestic production of agricultural products, raw materials and food to their domestic consumption.

oriented, competitive and investment-attractive balanced system of production, processing, storage and sale of basic grain and leguminous crops and processed products, that is to guarantee Russia's food security, meet domestic needs in full and build up a significant export potential.

As for the promotion of food safety, it should be noted that the Russian Federation forbids the breeding of plants and animals with genetically engineered structures without sufficient expertise and scientific studies.

Russia implements measures to supply food to all population groups, including ones living in remote regions. The State Programme "Transport System Development" includes the development of the Northern Sea Route to deliver cargoes necessary for the sustainment of Arctic population. There is also a mechanism put in place, designed to facilitate the transportation of agricultural products from remote regions. That includes delivery of grain by means of railroads¹⁷. In figures — 100 mln rubles were [allocated](#) to transport 80,000 tons of cargo in 2019.

In 2015–2019, Russia slightly progressed in the [Global Food Security Index](#), having risen from 43th to 42th place (of 113). The country holds [similarly high position](#) (33th) in food economic affordability, particularly due to positive assessment of financing available for farming, as well as low poverty rates.

Russia places high emphasis on food security in international cooperation. In 2014, it joined the Food Aid Convention aimed at ensuring efficient provision of humanitarian aid to states in need of such aid. In accordance with the Convention, Russia assumed an obligation to provide minimum food aid volumes in financial form and/or in kind via bilateral or multilateral channels for at least USD 15 mln per year. Russia has considerably exceeded that commitment. In the last five years, under WFP alone, Russia provided food aid to 30 countries in different parts of the world for more than USD 220 mln. In addition to provision of urgent food aid in crisis situations, the country actively performs as a development donor, including FAO projects aimed at long-term food security and agricultural development solutions.

End all forms of malnutrition of population at large and achieve the targets on stunting and wasting in children (Target 2.2)

In 2018, Russia registered low level of malnutrition for people aged 18 and older: about 1.6%, including 1.7% for women and 1.4% for men.

[Food consumption by Russia's population](#) is diverse. In general, the country is characterized by [an excess of calories value of diet over energy consumption](#), while consumed food has surplus fat and sugar contents. In 2015–2018, the consumption of vegetables, fruit, meat, eggs, and vegetable oil increased, and consumption of potatoes, dairy products, fish and bread declined.

In 2018, 10.6% of children under 5 years of age in Russia had [stunting](#), 3.1% of children in the same age group had [underweight](#), 7.5% — overweight. At the same time, more than half of the Russian

¹⁷ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 406 of 6 April 2019.

population [have an inclination to be overweight](#); 17.8% of men and 24.5% of women have Class 1, 2 and 3 obesity; 46.9% of men and 34.7% of women have overweight. The reasons for this tendency include excessive consumption of carbohydrates and fats. The state is actively implementing measures to address this problem.

The basis for combatting obesity and ensuring efficient and healthy nutrition in Russia is formed by the State Policy Guidelines of the Russian Federation in Ensuring Healthy Nutrition of the Population (designed until 2020), targeted at the maintenance and promotion of public health, prevention of diseases caused by malnutrition and unbalanced nutrition, as well as “Public Health Promotion” Federal Project (subproject of “Demography” National Project), which targets the creation of healthy lifestyle environment, including nutrition, elimination of micronutrient deficiency, and reduced consumption of salt and sugar. In addition, the Law “On Healthy Nutrition”¹⁸ was adopted in 2020, which introduced the new concept of “healthy nutrition”, legislative recognition of its principles, and specific features of organization of quality, safe and healthy nutrition for children and certain population groups.

There are also measures implemented to ensure proper nutrition for children, including the initiative [to supply schoolchildren with hot meals](#). While in 2015 hot meals were provided to 88.7% of schoolchildren, including 96.4% of primary school students, in 2018 the indicators rose to 90.2% and 97.3%, respectively.

On 1 February 2020, the President of the Russian Federation [introduced draft amendments](#) into the Law “On provision of free hot meals to schoolchildren”¹⁹, which now ensure that at least one hot meal is served in school during the day, and will be financed from the state budget.

The Russian Federation also assists other countries to establish the systems of child nutrition, primarily through the UN agencies. In 2015–2023, a total of USD 57.9 mln were provided to WFP for long-term projects for the development of national school feeding programmes in Armenia, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan.

In 2020, with the financial support from the Russian Federation (USD 4 mln) the WFP also launched school feeding project in Syria. Similar efforts in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are undertaken under the FAO-Russian technical assistance project for 2015–2020 with the budget of USD 6 mln.

Increase the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, including through secure and equal access to land and other productive resources and inputs (Target 2.3)

Russia implements the Federal Scientific and Technical Programme of Agricultural Development for 2017–2025, with the policy priority defined as the transition to high-yielding, ecologically friendly agro- and aquaculture farming, storage and efficient processing of agricultural products, and production of safe and high-quality food.

¹⁸ Federal Law. No. 47-FZ of 1 March 2020.

¹⁹ Federal Law No. 47-FZ of 1 March 2020.

According to the [2016 All-Russian Agricultural Census](#), Russia has 36,000 agricultural organizations, including 24,300 micro- and small-sized enterprises, 174,800 farms, including individual entrepreneurs, and 23.5 mln private farm holdings and other individual farms.

In 2015–2018, the [farms' share in total volume of agricultural production](#) increased from 11.5% to 12.5%; in the volume of production in the household sector (excluding organizations) – from 25.0% to 32.5%. Domestic support for small farms is provided to agricultural goods producers on a non-discriminatory basis. One of the main objectives of the grant support is to increase volumes of output from farms through herd expansion, acquisition of agricultural land, use of machines and equipment.

At the same time, several regions of the Russian Federation provide support to local production of agricultural products organized directly by indigenous small ethnic communities. For instance, respective state programmes include measures to increase reindeer and Siberian red deer livestock in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation, which ensures traditional nutrition, boost employment and increase incomes of indigenous population in these regions.

Create sustainable food production systems and implement highly productive and eco-friendly methods of sustainable agriculture (Target 2.4)

Financial support and mechanisms of sustainable food production are provided for by the State Programme for the Development of Agriculture and Regulation Markets for Agricultural Products, Raw Materials and Food.

In addition, the Federal Scientific and Technical Programme of development of agriculture includes the following targets: generation of scientific and technical deliverables and products (“generation of knowledge”), their practical deployment and commercialization (“application of knowledge”), as well as the implementation of training activities to ensure the development of agriculture (“transfer of technologies”).

Case study

Iskra Meat Farms LLC

Over 8 years, the company [has been applying “no-till”](#) technology (zero tillage system), which enables it to prevent water and wind erosion of the soil and keep moisture more efficiently.

Rusagro Group

Rusagro Group implements a number of [innovative projects to improve plant growing efficiency](#). Thus, the company has implemented algorithms of simulation and automated selection of optimal crop rotation for each field. Under the production management and control project, 100% of field works are controlled automatically. In particular, they include control of the area and boundaries of land cultivation, operation performance speed, and performance rates.

Case study

PhosAgro

In December 2018, PhosAgro [became the first Russian company](#) to sign an agreement with FAO for the implementation of the project for promotion of new technologies and knowledge in the area of sustainable land management and agriculture.

The international project with the budget of USD 1.2 mln “Development of Sustainable Land Management through the Implementation of the Global Programme of Soil Science Development and Creation of the Global Soil Laboratory Network” has been implemented since early 2019 within the framework of bilateral PhosAgro-FAO cooperation. The project goal is to improve farmers’ sustainable soil management skills and empower national soil laboratories in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

PhosAgro’s main function in the project is to develop a uniform global mechanism for the promotion of sustainable land management technologies and knowledge, by applying, among other things, Russian experience, thus preventing agricultural land degradation, and promoting soil enrichment, increased crop yield and improvement of the rural population well-being, and, as a consequence, combatting hunger.

To ensure sustainable development of food production, the Government implements [a number of sectoral strategic programmes](#), such as Strategy for the Development of Food and Processing Industry in the Russian Federation 2020. The Strategy is being implemented to ensure guaranteed and sustainable provision of safe and quality food products.

On 1 January 2020, Russia enacted the Federal Law²⁰ that establishes the regulation of the organic products market; introduces new terms, such as “organic products”, “organic agriculture”, and “producers of organic products”; graphics image (symbol) of organic products; establishes basic requirements for production of organic products; and provides for voluntary production compliance verification.

The [organic products market](#) in Russia amounts to about USD 130 mln (a 10-fold increase since 2000); 15–20% of the market are domestic certified products. However, Russia’s share of the world market is only about 0.15%.

In addition, it should be noted that Russia [provides](#) support for the development and implementation of the concept of agroecology in the global food system on the FAO platform.

As part of the development of the sustainable food production system, Russia pays special attention to efficient use of soil resources, described in more detail in SDG 15 section below.

²⁰ Federal Law No. 280-FZ of 3 August 2018.

Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domestic animals and their related wild species (Target 2.5)

For the purposes of the development of international cooperation in seed breeding, in 2017, the EAEU member states signed the Agreement on Circulation of Seeds of Agricultural Plants within the Eurasian Economic Union. In 2019, the Agreement on Measures Aimed at Unification of Selection and Breeding of Live-Stock Animals within the Eurasian Economic Union was signed.

The Russian Federation has accumulated the unique genetic material of live-stock animals represented by 42 species, 744 breeds, types and crosses of the world and domestic selection. The National Pedigree Register includes more than 2,300 pedigree livestock animals herds of 14 species.

In 2018, [the share of domestic reproduction animals](#) used for agricultural production in the territory of Russian Federation was 93.7%.

Case study

The Federal Research Center N. I. Vavilov All-Russian Institute of Plant Genetic Resources

The Federal Research Center N. I. Vavilov All-Russian Institute of Plant Genetic Resources is Russia's largest genetic bank of world genetic resources of cultivated plants and their related wild species. The collection [forms](#) the strategic basis for the sustainable development of domestic selection that promotes the development of agricultural production and provides unique certified materials for breakthrough genetic and genome research projects, which, in turn, enables the development of new methodological approaches for accelerated selection.

Lomonosov Moscow State University

The [Noah's Ark project of Moscow State University](#) dedicated to the creation of a multifunctional network-attached storage of biological material from various geographic zones of Russia and other countries, as well as to integrated research of biological material based on the depository prototypes. The project also provides for investigation of poorly studied organisms, and development of new algorithms of analysis of information processes in living systems. More than 300 University professors, post-graduate students and students of more than 10 departments take part in the project.

Develop rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology and plant and livestock gene banks in developing and least developed countries (Target 2.a)

To create comfortable living environment and favorable infrastructure in rural areas, promote broader involvement of rural population, including volunteers²¹, in the implementation of socially significant projects and create positive attitude towards countryside and rural way of life, a number of programmes for sustainable development of rural areas²² have been implemented from 2014.

The development of Russia's potential for the achievement of SDG 2 is also driven by such factors as the development of volunteering infrastructure in rural areas, which promotes, in particular, lower outflow of young people due to the possibility of self-fulfillment in their native regions.

Under the Development of Transport Infrastructure in Rural Areas ministerial [project](#) of the State Programme "Integrated Development of Rural Areas", in 2020–2025, more than 2,500 km of motor roads are planned to be built, with paved roads to be built in 95% of rural areas.

Case study

Miratorg Holding

The [Holding](#) cooperates with 40 major agricultural and technical Institutions of Higher Education, introduced a scholarship programme for promising students and opened ample opportunities for internships.

Russia provides support for the development of rural areas to other countries. Thus, in 2015–2020, more than USD 5 mln [were allocated](#) to Armenia under UNDP programme for overall support of rural areas and communities. In addition, the Russian Federation [provided financing](#) equal to USD 3 mln to support FAO project for restoration of agriculture and rural infrastructure in Syria for 2018–2020.

²¹ According to the 2019 sampling work force survey, 564,000 rural dwellers participated in volunteering.

²² Under the Sustainable Development of Rural Areas subprogramme of the State Programme for the Development of Agriculture and Regulation Markets for of Agricultural Products, Raw Materials and Food.

Case study

Common Fund for Commodities (CFC)

The Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) is an international intergovernmental financial organization aimed at boosting socio-economic development of its member countries, promotion of food security and growth of competitiveness of products produced by most vulnerable value chain actors. CFC finances projects of commodity market participants and cooperates with other specialized financial funds to improve mobilization of resources to implement the 2030 Agenda. In 2019, eight projects for the total amount of USD 35.29 mln were adopted.

The Russian Federation has been CFC member since 1992 as the legal successor of the USSR that joined CFC in 1987. Russia is the biggest shareholder of the Fund. In the policy of the Russian Federation in the area of promotion of international development, CFC is regarded as a major instrument for providing assistance to foreign states with a potential of expansion of their business activities within CIS region in agriculture, metal and mining industries.

Ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives (Target 2.c)

Measures implemented in the Russian Federation to avoid excessive volatility in food prices include the mechanism for conducting government procurement and commodity interventions.

In addition, Russia implements the price regulation policy in respect of socially significant food products, such as some types of meat, dairy products, cereals, hen eggs, sunflower-seed oil, sugar, salt, wheat flour, tea, bread, some vegetables and fruit. Limitations may be introduced for a period of no more than 90 days subject to price rise by more than 30% over three months.

Looking forward

Russia implements the ministerial project of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation "Digital Agriculture", which provides for introduction of digital technologies and platform solutions into agribusiness industry, and twofold increase of productivity of "digital" agricultural enterprises by 2024. Measures are implemented to assist the development and promotion of healthy life and healthy nutrition in order to change dietary habits and exclude the excess of dietary calories over energy expenditure as well as the surplus fat and sugar contents in consumed food products.

SDG 3

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



Reduce maternal mortality ratio (Target 3.1), end preventable deaths of children under 5 years of age (Target 3.2)

From 2000, maternal mortality ratio in the Russian Federation has reduced more than fourfold. Between 2015 and 2018 this figure fell from 10.1 to 9.1 per 100,000 live births.

In 2010–2018, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel in the Russian Federation [was constant](#) (99.7%), which far exceeds the target included in the Thirteenth General Programme of Work (WHO) for 2023 (88.6%) and closely reaches the goal of 100% set out for 2030. “Healthcare” National Project is also targeted at enhanced training of specialists in perinatology, neonatology and pediatric simulation centers and the development of medical attendance to women during pregnancy, childbirth, and postnatal period, including within the financing available under birth certificates.

Against 2015, the under-five mortality rate in the Russian Federation decreased by 21.3% ([2015–8](#); 2018–6.3 per mille). The target established by “Development of Children’s Healthcare, including the Creation of State-of-the-Art Infrastructure for Provision of Medical Care to Children” Federal Project is 5.9 per 1,000 live births²³ by 2024.

In the Russian Federation, neonatal mortality rate has been steadily reducing, from 3.9 to 2.8 per mille in 2015–2018, due to the implementation of three-tier medical assistance model, including the development of perinatal centers, provision of state-of-the-art equipment to healthcare providers, development of personnel skills in working with low-birthweight infants and monitoring of the screening quality during antenatal period²⁴. Information on medical assistance provided to women during pregnancy and maternity periods is presented in SDG 5 section.

End communicable diseases (Target 3.3)

The sentinel epidemiological monitoring and oversight system providing for registration of communicable disease cases within Russia has been operating in the Russian Federation for many years. Furthermore, disease and death cases are registered as part of the continuous statistical monitoring; since 2017, the Federal Register of Tuberculosis Cases and the Federal Register of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Cases have been maintained, including case follow-up, treatment and treatment efficiency data for each reported tuberculosis and HIV infection case within Russia.

The number of registered patients with a first-time diagnosis of HIV infection (per 100,000 population) in Russia reduced by 27.3% from 3.3 persons in 2015 to 2.4 in 2018. According to the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, HIV prevention measures at federal and regional levels promoted a considerable increase in screening coverage from 19% in 2015 to 26% in 2018 (with early disease detection in 70% of HIV cases).

²³ The age group 0–4 years of age used in Russia corresponds to the international category “Children under age 5”.

²⁴ Order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 572n of 1 November 2012.

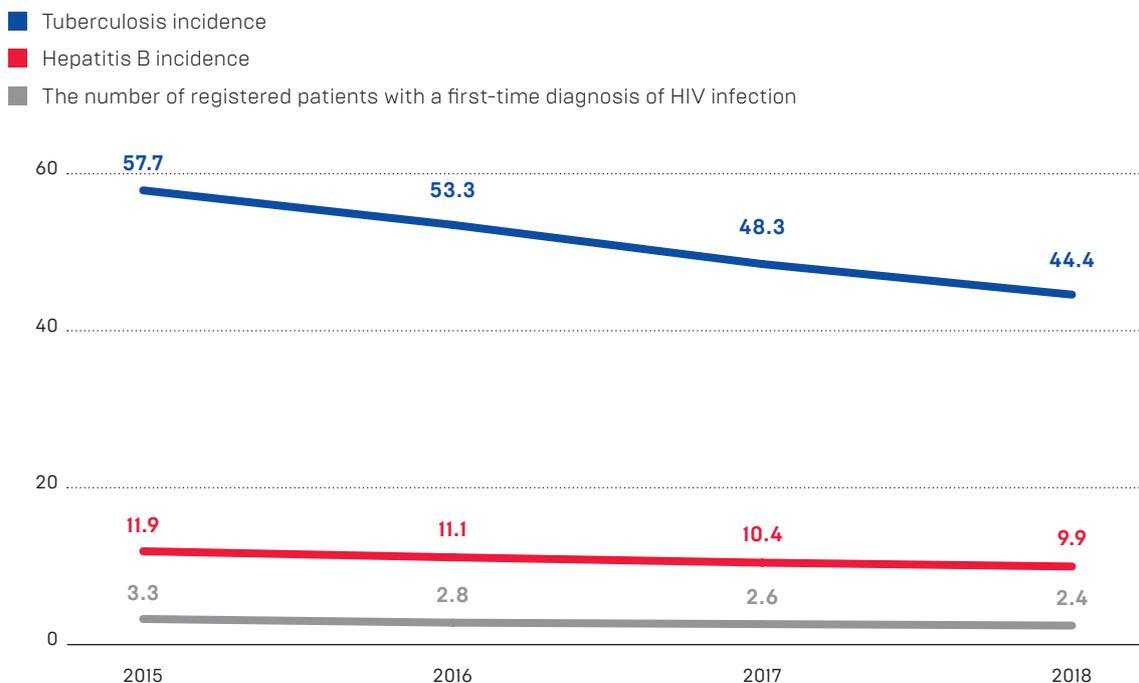
Tuberculosis incidence has been reducing faster than planned (in 2018–44.4 against the target of 49.9 per 100,000 population). In 2019, the sectoral special-purpose programme was adopted, which is aimed at the improvement of the tuberculosis epidemiologic situation²⁵. In 2015–2018, hepatitis B incidence reduced from 11.9 to 9.9 (per 100,000 population) (Figure 4).

The Russian Federation is one of the principal partners in addressing the international health problems. Thus, on 1 December 2018, the World AIDS Day, the Government of the Russian Federation decided to make the next voluntary target contribution to the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in the amount of USD 17.8 mln to provide assistance in 2019–2021 to some countries of Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia (EESCCA) for prevention, control and monitoring of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. From 2012, the overall input of the Government of the Russian Federation in the provision of assistance to EESCCA countries to combat HIV/AIDS amounted to USD 50 mln target contribution to UNAIDS and USD 12 mln on a bilateral basis.

On 11 March 2020, WHO declared the outbreak of a disease caused by a new coronavirus infection (COVID-19) a pandemic. Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation included COVID-19 in the list of diseases that pose a danger to others²⁶. Detailed information on measures implemented by Russia to prevent COVID-19 spread is presented in section “COVID-19 response in the Russian Federation”.

FIGURE 4. NUMBER OF REPORTED FIRST-TIME DIAGNOSED HIV CASES, INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND INCIDENCE OF HEPATITIS B

Rosstat / per 100,000 population



²⁵ Order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 199 of 5 April 2019.

²⁶ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 66 of 31 January 2020.

Reduce mortality from non-communicable diseases (Target 3.4)

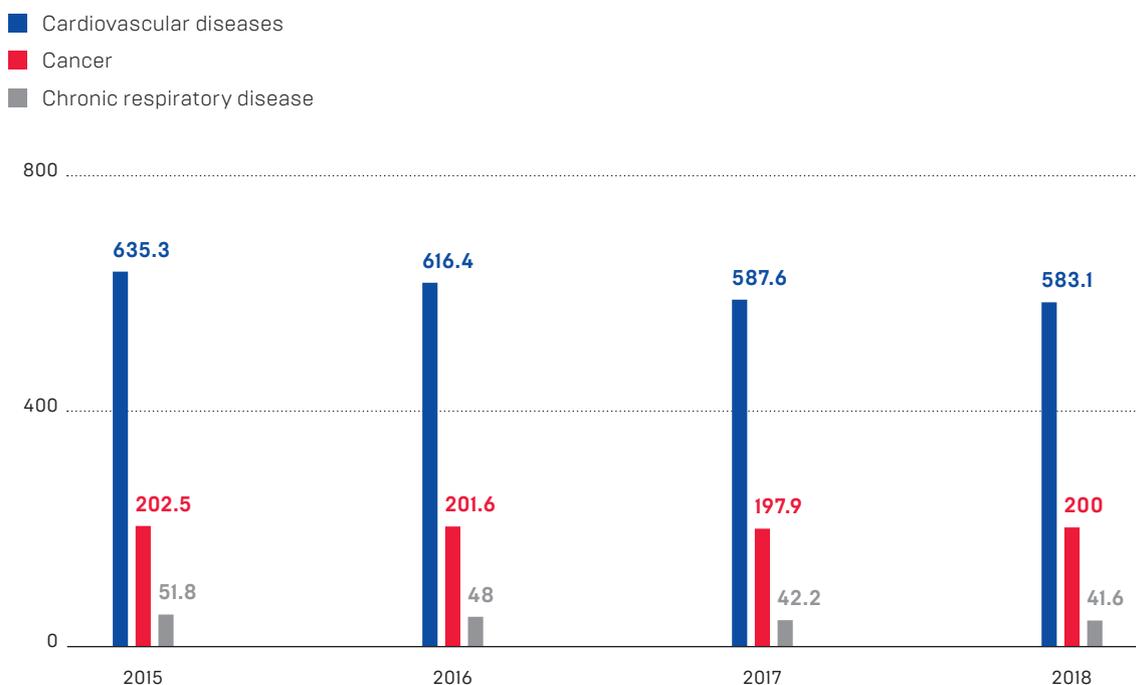
Against 2015, in 2018, mortality in the Russian Federation declined (Figure 5): from cardiovascular disease — by 8.2%; from chronic respiratory disease — by 19.7%; from cancer — by 1.2%. Low mortality reduction rate from malignant neoplasms may be related to the changed age distribution, with an ever-increasing proportion of the elderly. One of the objectives of “Healthcare” National Project is the reduction of mortality from cardiovascular diseases and cancer.

Cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases are the four key causes of mortality from non-communicable diseases for adult population. In 2018, the adult population (30–69) mortality from non-communicable diseases continued to decline to 23.7%.

According to Rosstat, suicide mortality rate (per 100,000 population) for the last four years (2015–2018) reduced from 17.4 to 12.4 or by 28.7%.

FIGURE 5. MORTALITY RATE ATTRIBUTED TO CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, CANCER, CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE

Rosstat / per 100,000 population



The Russian Federation has been consistently and comprehensively supporting WHO in the achievement of global progress in prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). On the global level, the Russian Federation was one of the initiators of the establishment of, and provides financial support to, the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, which rallied all relevant UN special-purpose agencies, NCD programmes and UN funds in order to provide support to countries in the achievement of NCD-related SDGs. On the regional level, from 2014, the Russian Federation has been financing the operation of the [WHO office](#) for the prevention of NCDs, which have launched a series of programmes and ensured positive trends in reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases in countries of the European region.

Reduce the number of deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents (Target 3.6)

According to Rosstat, the Russian Federation shows downward trends in the number of deaths from road traffic accidents: a 20.5% reduction from 12.2 to 9.7 per 100,000 population in 2015–2018.

National Road-Traffic Safety Strategy of the Russian Federation adopted in January 2018²⁷ has an ambitious goal of improving road safety and achieving zero deaths from road traffic accidents by 2030. Speed limitations of no more than 60 km/h in populated localities, and no more than 20 km/h in housing areas, cycle areas and courtyards were introduced. Furthermore, under “Housing and Urban Environment” and “Digital Economy” National Projects, “Smart City” Project is implemented, with the solution bank that includes, among others, [projects](#) for introducing an intelligent system of road traffic control and photo and video recording of road traffic offences, including at junctions and railway crossings.

The targets of “Safe and Quality Roads” National Project include the introduction in 2019–2024 of at least 130 standards and technical requirements for road facilities construction, including based on digital technologies, aimed at elimination of road traffic accidents concentration points; introduction of automated and robotic technologies of traffic management and control of compliance with the road traffic regulations; and ground public passenger transport rolling stock renewal in 20 biggest urban agglomerations.

Achieve universal health coverage (Target 3.8)

In 2019, the mortality rate (number of deaths per 1,000 persons) in Russia reduced to 12.3 compared to 2015 (13.0) and 2010 (14.2), with the life expectancy at birth showing a steady upward trend (72.91 in 2018 against 71.39 in 2015; 73.34 by estimate for 2019). These improvements are largely due to the implementation of the relevant measures. The mortality rate for employment ages (16–59 for men and 16–54 for women) continues to decline — for Russia generally, by 2018 to 482.2, or by 11.8% compared to 2015 (546.7 deaths per 100,000 population).

Russia provides all people from birth and throughout the lifetime with free medical care under the Programme of State Guarantees of Free Provision of Medical Care, including coverage by such measures as prevention and screening and high-tech health interventions. Free medicines are

²⁷ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1-r of 8 January 2018.

given to all patients provided with emergency medical services and taking treatment in all-day and daytime patient facilities. Guarantees apply to medicines within the list of vital and essential drugs (EDL) and to benefit recipients²⁸.

In achieving this target, a special role is played by availability of transport to ensure access to healthcare and disease-prevention service providers, first aid services and transportation of patients from remote areas to specialized health facilities. The proportion of persons who were not able to visit a healthcare provider because they could not get there without aid reduced from 4.9% in 2014 to 3.4% in 2018, the improvement being due, among other things, to the implementation of the 2011–2025 State Programme²⁹ “Accessible Environment”. Also, the State Programme³⁰ “Integrated development of rural areas” provides for the reduction of the mid-radius of accessibility of rural health units to 6 km in 2025 (15 km in 2017).

Furthermore, under “Healthcare” National Project, in 2019, rural dwellers (in populated localities with up to 2,000 population) were able to have access to healthcare due to putting into operation of more than 350 new rural health units (RHUs) and dispensaries, and 500 mobile health units.

Mobile RHUs have also been equipped with modern technical means, including patients’ examination and treatment rooms, and resuscitators. Ambulance vehicles have also been modernized, enabling healthcare workers to test patients and make electrocardiography in the vehicle. Modern computer equipment was installed, including webcams for teleconsultations, as required, telecommunication with a clinic physician. Electrocardiograms are also examined in online mode, enabling paramedics to prescribe treatment promptly.

Further reduction of mortality and increased life expectancy (up to 78 years by 2024 and up to 80 by 2030) are the targets of “Healthcare” National Project.

Reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination (Target 3.9)

According to the Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing [data](#), in 2018, there were about 75,400 deaths (or 80.0% of 2013 level) and about 3.0 mln illnesses of children and adults (or 70.5% of 2013 level) directly associated with air, water and soil pollution and contamination in urban and rural settlements. Generally, the proportion of deterioration of health cases reliably associated with negative habitat factors, such as air, water and soil quality, has been gradually reducing in recent years, largely due to the application of the risk-based approach to control and monitoring and systematic consistent improvement of human environment quality in Russian regions.

²⁸ The Great Patriotic War veterans, persons with disabilities, families with many children or certain disease cases, such as orphan and oncological diseases, diabetes, HIV, tuberculosis.

²⁹ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation. No. 1297 of 1 December 2015.

³⁰ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 696 of 31 May 2019.

In addition, Russia together with UNECE and other UN programmes, funds, and specialized agencies is working for a considerable reduction of hazardous air emissions (including by transport) and use of ecologically clean technologies. More detailed information is also presented in SDG 13 section.

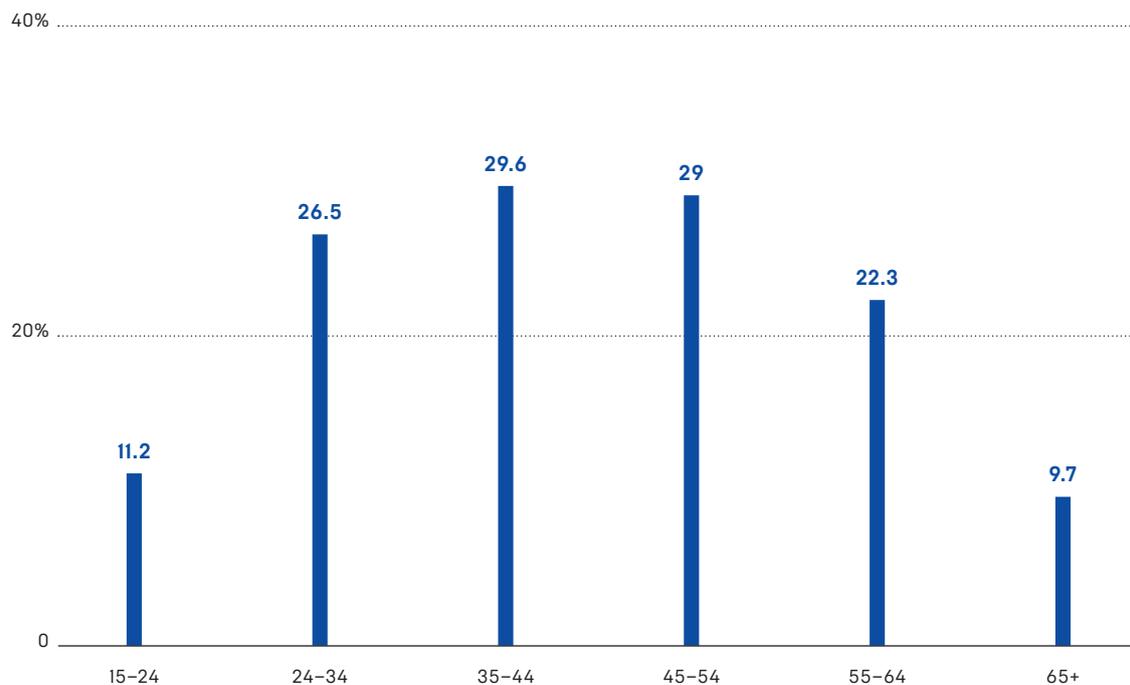
Strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (Target 3.a)

According to Rosstat sampling survey findings, as at 2018, the percentage of tobacco smoking persons aged 15–24 in the total population aged 15–24 was 11.2% (the least percentage typical for age group 65+ – 9.7%) (Figure 6).

In 2012, tobacco risks warnings were approved³¹. From 15 November 2017, such warnings are placed on smoking products in the upper parts of the front and back sides of consumer packaging (the warning may be placed at the bottom of the back side if it is overlapped by the excise stamp), and shall occupy at least 50% of the side surface. The Federal Law “On Advertising” also bans advertising of tobacco, tobacco goods and products and smoking accessories including smoking pipes, hookahs, cigarette paper and lighters. Free-of-charge distribution of tobacco products is also banned in Russia.

FIGURE 6. AGE-STANDARDIZED PREVALENCE OF CURRENT TOBACCO USE AMONG PERSONS AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER, 2018

Rosstat / %



³¹ Paras 1–12 of part 1 of Article 10 of the Federal Law No. 268-FZ of 22 December 2008.

Increase health financing and development and training (Target 3.c)

Health worker density and distribution per 1,000 population in 2015–2018 has no apparent dynamics, [remaining](#) more than 4.0 for medical doctors and 10 for nursing staff (including midwifery personnel and dentists).

Decree No. 204³² is aimed at staffing of health organizations with skilled personnel, including the implementation of the lifelong learning system for health workers, remarkably, with the use of distant education technologies. “Healthcare” National Project includes “Providing Healthcare Organizations with Qualified Personnel” Federal Project, which targets include the development of accreditation system for health specialists, as well as education modules.

Case study

The All-Russian Public Movement of Medical Volunteers

Healthcare Volunteers Movement was founded in 2013 and today remains one of the largest voluntary healthcare organizations in Europe. About 4 mln Russians receive help and support from medical volunteers every year. Main targets and goals include, inter alia, increasing health awareness of population, promoting the prestige of medical specialties and building human resource capacity for the healthcare industry.

Strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of global health risks (Target 3.d)

The Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing is the designated International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) focal point in the Russian Federation.

As part of IHR implementation, Russia provides assistance to CIS countries³³, as well as Guinea, Mongolia, China and Vietnam, to combat dangerous communicable diseases. Relevant initiatives include assistance to foreign partners in elimination of measles and rubeola, reduction of risk of import and spread of plague, IHR implementation, reduction of risks of microbial antibiotic resistance, and combatting HIV/AIDS. In 2017–2018, more than 400 specialists from specialized

³² Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 204 of 7 May 2018.

³³ Including Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, and Kyrgyzstan.

institutions in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Belarus, Tajikistan, and Mongolia received training. In 2015–2018, 14 mobile laboratories were supplied to six countries: 3 to the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2 to the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2 to the Republic of Tajikistan, 3 to the Kyrgyz Republic, 2 to Republic of Armenia, and 2 to the Republic of Belarus.

In 2020 and 2021, Russia [will pay](#) up to USD 2.8 mln and 1.9 mln, respectively, as a voluntary contribution to WHO to promote IHR implementation.

Information on humanitarian aid supplies from Russia to foreign countries during COVID-19 pandemic is presented in section “COVID-19 response in the Russian Federation”.

Looking forward

One of the subprogrammes of the State Programme “The Development of Pharmaceutical and Medical Industry in 2013–2020” is the development of medicines production. The subprogramme objectives include the development of generic and innovative drugs for treatment of socially significant diseases, relevant technologies, and start of production of innovative drugs for treatment of socially significant diseases. Investments in research and development, technological innovations and re-equipment of drugs production is expected to amount to 112.4 bln rubles by the end of 2020, and the share of domestically produced drugs in the total healthcare consumption in monetary terms will be 50%³⁴.

³⁴ The State Programme [“The Development of Pharmaceutical and Medical Industry in 2013–2020”](#).

SDG 4

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



Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education (Target 4.1)

The Constitution of the Russian Federation states that everyone shall have the right to education and that general education shall be mandatory. The Constitution also guarantees the accessibility and gratuity of preschool, general secondary and vocational secondary education and the right to receive, free of charge and on a competitive basis, higher education in a state or municipal educational institution.

In 2018, the gross enrolment ratio of with primary, basic general and general secondary education programmes in Russia was 99.9.

According to the [PISA](#) international research that measures 15-year-olds' ability to use their reading, mathematics and science knowledge and skills to meet real-life challenges, the 2018 results of Russian students in reading and science were slightly below the OECD average (479 and 478 points against average 487 and 489 points, respectively), and in mathematics at about the same level (488 and 489 points).

As part of the state policy implementation, the national system of identification and support of gifted secondary education students has been developed, including, in particular:

- All-Russian School Olympiads held annually in all regions of the Russian Federation in 24 general subjects, which all schoolchildren may participate in. In 2018/2019 school year, about 6 mln 4–11-grade students took part in School Olympiads;
- 224 events included in the List of Olympiads and other Intellectual and/or Creative Competitions are also opened for all schoolchildren;
- [modern platforms for additional education of children](#) – [Quantorium](#) technology parks³⁵ for children (by the beginning of 2020, 110 Quantorium technology parks covering about 110,000 children on an ongoing basis, as well as more than 600,000 children as participants of various events, were opened in 76 Russian regions), mobile technology parks, IT-Cube digital education centers, centers for identification and support of talented children and centers implementing additional education programmes.

The [Sirius](#) education center, which provides free travel and accommodation to qualified children to identify at an early stage, develop and further support talented children in such areas as the arts, sports, science, and technical creativity, was established in Sochi; every month the center is visited by 800 children aged 10 to 17 from all Russian regions.

Furthermore, in the Russian Federation, parents may obtain [free additional education](#) certificates.

As for the digitization of education in Russia, introduction of electronic class registers and school diaries should be noted. In 2018, 85.9% general education institutions had such software programmes.

³⁵ Technology parks are platforms for the development of innovative and technical skills.

Case study

Russian Electronic School

An open information and education Internet portal that promotes the implementation of primary, basic and secondary general education programmes using electronic learning and distance education technologies was created. In total, RES has developed about 6,000 classes in 31 general subjects for grades 1–11, with more than 1.3 mln users visiting the RES portal annually.

Ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and primary education (Target 4.2)

As at 1 January 2019, the rate of families' satisfaction with preschool education for children aged 3 to 7 in the Russian Federation generally [was 99.08%](#) (as at 1 January 2016–98.97%). The proportion of children aged 3–5 attending preschool education institutions in 2018 was 83.0%, that of children aged 6–7–45.2%.

As of 1 January 2019, families' demand for preschool education for children aged under 3 [was satisfied by 83.58%](#). As at early October 2018, it [was 79.2%](#) (as at early October 2017–75.8%). According to Rosstat, in 2018, the gross enrollment ratio for children aged 1–6 with pre-primary education was 67.2% (the number of children attending institutions engaged in educational activities for pre-school education and childcare institutions to the total number of children in that age group).

“Demography” National Project provides for new mechanisms of support of private institutions of pre-primary education (such as subsidization of additional enrolment, additional enrolment in institutions of preschool education, including necessary conditions for children with disabilities).

Alternative forms of preschool education are ensured for employed mothers: short stay groups for children, family care-taking groups, lecothekes, and consulting centers.

Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education (Target 4.3)

By the end of 2018, as many as 47 Russian universities, including 19 participants of the programme for improving the competitiveness of the leading universities of the Russian Federation, were included in institutional, sectoral, and subject-specific ranking systems; 18 Russian universities are

present in world's Top-200, 8 of them are 5/100 Project³⁶ participants. By the end of 2019, a total of 48 Russian institutions of tertiary education were in the world's Top-500 ranking systems.

The key mechanism for ensuring the accessibility of tertiary education and training of the required number of specialists in different trades is the order for federal budget-funded education. In 2019/2020 academic year, the relevant enrolment structure was as follows: about 48% – engineering professions; 14% – social sciences, 9% – natural sciences, 11% – teacher training, 8% – medical training³⁷. In 2018, [the number of students in tertiary education](#) was 4.2 mln, in 2019–4.1 mln. [Proportion of female students](#) in 2012–2018 was on average 54%, in 2019–53% (in 2010–2011–56–57%).

[Tertiary education financing](#) is provided from the federal budget. The standard rate is at least 800 students per each 10,000 residents of the Russian Federation aged 17 to 30. In the last five years, there were available 57 budget-funded first-course university places per 100 school leavers. In 2018, education expenditures per one student in tertiary education were 121,500 rubles; in 2015–89,600 rubles.

To expand the additional education coverage, “Education” National Project provides for the development of the lifelong learning platform (vocational education and additional education), grant support programme for institutions of tertiary education, and training of relevant academic and teaching staff.

Increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship (Target 4.4)

Russia develops the dual education system to provide youth with the skills necessary directly for employment.

Case study

Agency for Strategic Initiatives

[Skills of the Future](#) initiative is aimed at modernization of the general and additional education system in Russia and implementation of projects to introduce advanced models, programmes, technologies and innovations targeted at the development of 21st century competences and skills, improvement of the additional education efficiency and development of informal education. [Human Resources for Industrial Growth](#) initiative is aimed at providing the Russian industry with a new generation of workers and engineers up to 2020. The initiative includes: the [WorldSkills Hi-Tech](#) national championship of high-tech skills (6 championships held in 2014–2019, 48 WS Hi-Tech competences); [corporate championships](#); AgroSkills, DigitalSkills, LogisticSkills, [TravelSkills](#) sectoral championships.

³⁶ 5/100 Project – a state-sponsored initiative aimed at Russian universities adjustment to world standards and their inclusion in the international educational setting. The Project was launched in 2012 and is planned to be completed in 2020.

³⁷ Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation No. 48 of 29 January 2018.

Case study

Skolkovo Foundation

The innovative Skolkovo Foundation implements [education initiatives](#). The Massachusetts Institute of Technology supported the establishment of the Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skoltech) intended to train new researchers and entrepreneurs, promote scientific knowledge, and support the development of innovations.

The Open Education Platform

The [Open Education Platform](#) incorporates online courses in basic subjects studied in Russian universities. The Platform was developed by the National Open Education Platform Association founded by leading universities: Lomonosov Moscow State University, St. Petersburg Polytechnic University, St. Petersburg University, National University of Science and Technology MISiS, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, Ural Federal University, and ITMO University.

Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development (Target 4.7)

To promote sustainable development, several programmes have been developed and implemented in the Russian Federation.

At school level, the School SDG leaders programme has been created and its next level is Children SDGs ambassadors. At university level the University SDG Leaders programme is being created under the guidance of the United Nations Association of Russia. The Youth SDG Leaders movement is being created at regional level.

The SDG Youth Envoys programme was launched at federal level, in 2017: competitively selected 17 young people aged under 35 are assigned the Youth Envoy status in the Russian Federation and perform representative functions to promote the incorporation of SDG ideas and practices into the youth agenda within Russia and abroad.

The main mission of the above programmes is not only to promote SDG ideas, but also to work out real cases of successful solutions implementation in the real economic sector.

Upgrade education facilities that are child sensitive (Target 4.a)

To ensure equal access to education for vulnerable groups, it is planned to introduce the Social Lift technology and develop inclusive education, create equal conditions for socialization, fulfilment of creative potential, employment and entrepreneurship within “Education” National Project framework in 2019–2024.

Russia implements a number of measures to increase the accessibility of quality education for disabled children through implementation of inclusive education, development of adjusted education programmes, creation of conditions for vocational education and training of persons with disabilities and support of their further employment.

Preschool education

Currently, children with special needs and disabled children attend institutions of pre-primary education together with children without disabilities.

In 2018, the proportion of narrowly focused specialists working with children with special needs and disabled children in the total number of preschool education teachers was 18.1%, 5.3% of them – speech therapists.

Primary and secondary education

In 2019, the proportion of disabled children who have access to quality primary general, basic general and secondary general education in the total number of school-age disabled children was 98.8% (in 2016–96.0%).

Tertiary education

In 2019, the number of students with special needs, disabled students and disabled children [amounted](#) to 20,900 people or 0.5% of the total number of students enrolled in full-time higher education programmes (same index in 2017 and 2018–0.5%). In 2019, 8.9% of the overall number of students were students with special needs and students with disabilities who studied under adjusted education programmes ([in 2017](#) – 9.4%; in 2018–10.0%).

In accordance with the State Programme “Accessible Environment” for 2011–2020, 20 resource training centers (RTC) aimed at improving accessibility and quality of tertiary education for people with disabilities were established and operate on the basis of institutions of tertiary education. RTCs operation is based on the collaborative efforts of 190 Russian Universities, which provided disability training for more than 4,000 university teachers working with students with special needs.

General measures

An online resource was developed to provide all population groups with free (gratuitous) one-stop access to online courses presented on Internet-based education platforms ([online.edu.ru](#)). As at March 2020, 1,237 accessible courses were published by 39 platforms on the [online portal](#). As at the end of 2018, 770,000 students [registered](#).

The state also grants a number of education benefits to members of indigenous small ethnic communities. A special-purpose fund has been established to organize research and study of the native languages and culture of peoples of the Russian Federation and develop manuals on native languages and textbooks for study in native languages³⁸. In addition, a special ministerial target programme³⁹ for preservation and development of languages of indigenous populations of the Russian Federation has been developed.

Remarkably, foreign nationals and stateless persons in the Russian Federation have the rights and obligations equal to those of Russian citizens, including with respect of education.

One of the aims of the Concept of the State Migration Policy of the Russian Federation for 2019–2025⁴⁰ is targeted efforts to create favorable conditions by means of training for smooth integration of labor migrants' children in Russian society.

Substantially expand the number of scholarships available for enrolment in higher education (Target 4.b)

Russia is a net exporter of education services. In 2010–2019, the number of foreign students studying in Russian institutions of higher education [increased](#) more than 2.5 times (from 108,000 to 267,000) (in 2015–210,000).

Assistance to foreign countries is provided in the form of scholarships (quotas) for secondary vocational and higher education in Russia. Thus, in 2019, the number of foreign students in Russian institutions of higher education funded from the budget of the Russian Federation under the basic education programmes [reached](#) 61,000 (in 2015–44,000).

In 2019, Russian institutions of tertiary education [enrolled](#) (for all forms of education) more than 90,000 foreign nationals and stateless persons, or 15,000 more than in 2015.

Substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers (Target 4.c)

The teacher competence assessment model has been developed and implemented as part of the formation and introduction of the teacher professional development growth state system. The model was tested in 2018. As planned in “Teacher of the Future” Federal Project that included in “Education” National Project, the approval of the model is scheduled for 2022.

In addition to that, the online [Bank of additional professional programmes](#) for teachers and managers of the secondary vocational education system which includes 53 programmes such as education and teaching, machine building, construction engineering and technology, informatics and computer engineering was formed in 2017.

³⁸ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 611 of 26 October 2018.

³⁹ Executive Order of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation No. R-60 of 16 May 2019.

⁴⁰ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 622 of 3 October 2018.

To ensure a large-scale introduction of digital technologies in education, more than 50 online advanced training courses for instructors of institutions of higher education in application of online technologies have been developed. The network of regional online education competences centers covering 40 regions of the Russian Federation that is based on 10 institutions of higher education was established.

In addition to the above, from 2012, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 597 of 7 May 2012, one of the state policy goals is the teaching staff's wages increase. In 2015–2019, wages of teaching staff at all levels [increased](#) from 26% (for general education teachers) to 77.2% (for higher vocational education teachers).

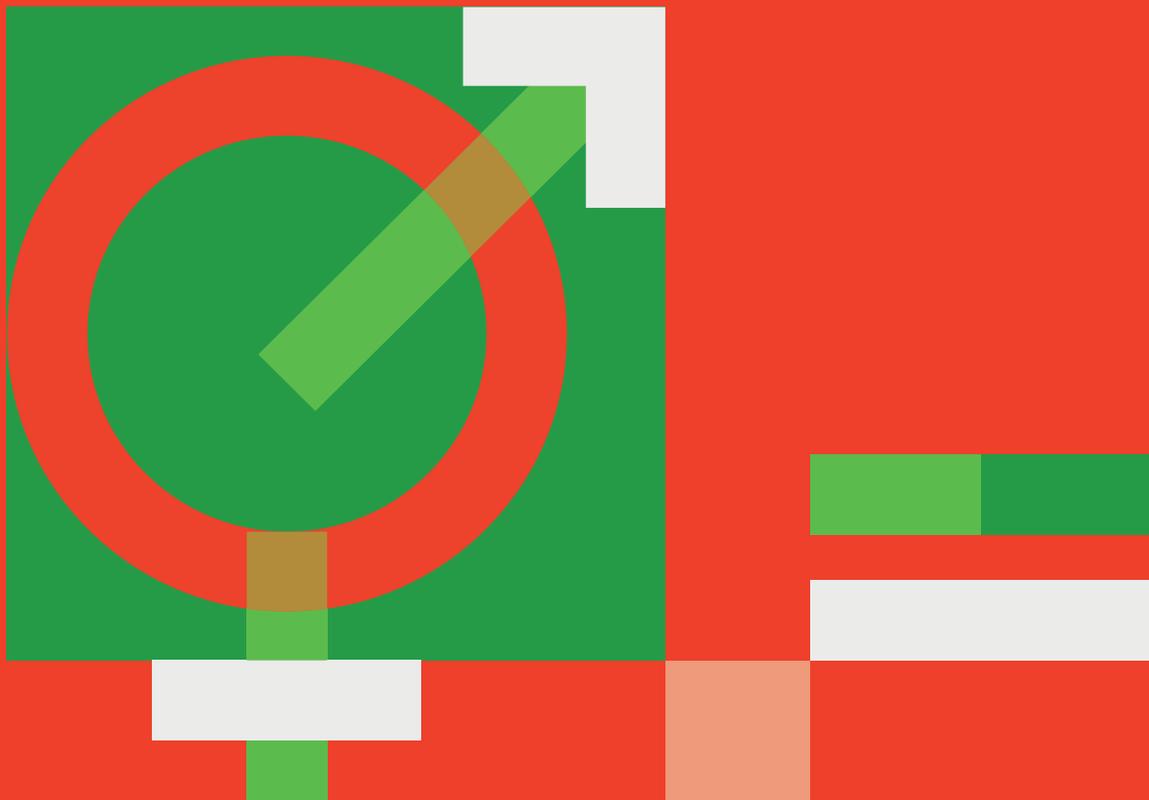
Looking forward

Russia implements measures to ensure additional in institutions of preschool education, and to provide women with children under the age of 3 with opportunities of education and advanced training for the purposes of further employment. These efforts will be continued under "Demography" National Project, which will increase the enrollment of children with preschool education.

Currently, Russia is implementing measures both to promote work in the field of education and to increase the wages of employees in this sphere. "Education" National Project provides for the forms of support and guiding for young teachers and their professional development, thus addressing the problem of attracting and retaining professional teaching staff.

SDG 5

Achieve gender equality
and empower all women and girls



End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere (Targets 5.1, 5.a, 5.c)

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Constitution of the Russian Federation: “Man and woman shall have equal rights and liberties and equal opportunities for their pursuit” (Article 19). All forms of gender-based discrimination are regarded as the violation of fundamental human rights and freedoms, which are the supreme value. The Labor Code of the Russian Federation (the Labor Code) guarantees the equality of the labor rights and opportunities, and no constraint of labor rights and freedoms (Article 3 of the Labor Code). The employer shall ensure equal payment for labor of equal value (Article 22 of the Labor Code). Any discrimination in establishing wage conditions is prohibited (Article 132 of the Labor Code). Every employee’s wages depend on his or her qualification, complexity of work performed, and the amount and quality of labor input. Working women are entitled to special state protection. The specificity of regulation of women’s labor in connection with pregnancy and motherhood generally relates to such labor law institutions as employment agreement, working time, rest time and work safety.

Russia’s position in international rankings

According to UNDP assessment, the Russian Federation is a country with a very high human capital development level, where the Human Development Index for females is equal to or exceeds the Human Development Index for males (in 2017 Human Development Index, female was 0.823, male – 0.808). As for the Gender Equality Index and Gender Inequality Index, in 2017 Russia [held](#) the 49th position of 189 countries.

According to the World Bank survey published at [the beginning of 2020](#), as in [2019](#), Russia was 73th of 190 countries in the gender equality ranking (Women, Business and the Law Index). Gender equality in Russia is achieved in mobility and assets. The areas of concern are pay and workplace. Certain difficulties in ensuring gender equality exist in such areas as entrepreneurship, pensions, and marriage.

In the 2018 [Gender Gap Index ranking](#) published by the World Economic Forum, Russia held the 75th position of 149 countries, 1st in Health and Survival, 28th in Educational Attainment, 31th in Economic Participation and Opportunity, and 123th in Political Empowerment.

In March 2017 National Action Strategy for Women 2017–2022⁴¹ was approved. The Strategy determined the principal directions of the state policy in respect of women and is aimed at ensuring full and equal participation of women in all social life areas. The plan of action to implement the Strategy in 2019–2022⁴² approved in December 2019 provides for:

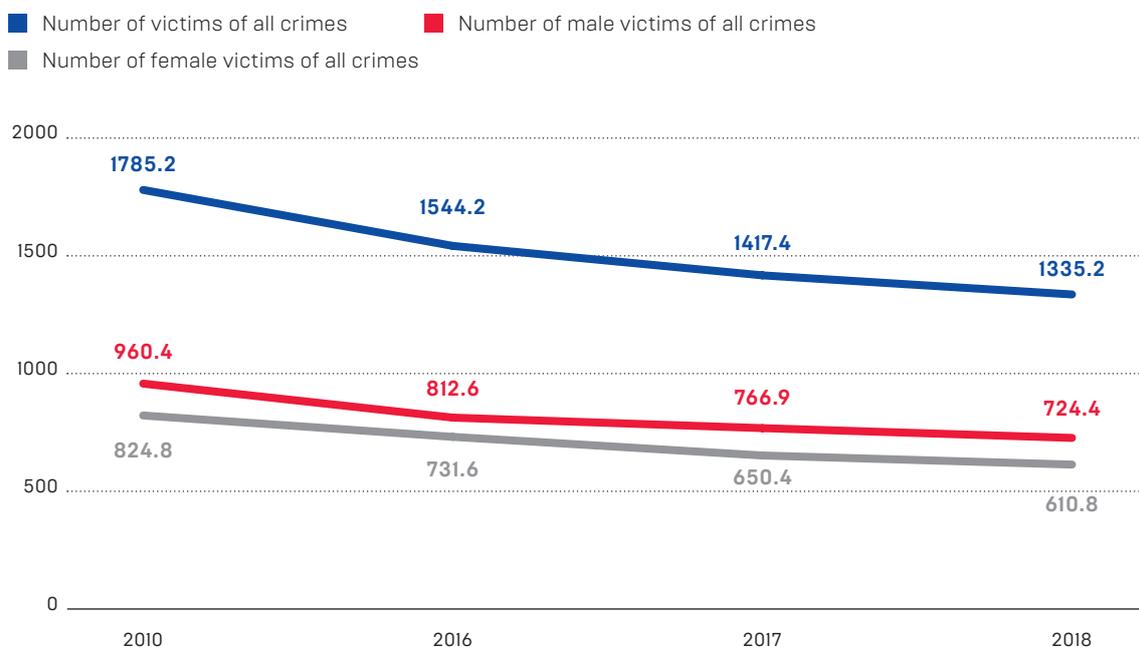
- creation of conditions for preservation of health of women of all ages;
- improvement of women’s economic position and their well-being;
- prevention of women’s social ill-being and violence against women;
- broader women’s participation in social and political life
- improvement of government statistics related to women’s social position.

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls (Target 5.2)

The Russian legislation provides for various penalties, including criminal responsibility, for different forms of violence. The Criminal Code of the Russian Federation contains at least forty crime components that may be qualified as “domestic violence”, including beating, torture, threat of homicide, etc. The total number of both female and male victims of all criminal offences in Russia, as well as the number of heavy and especially grave crimes, tends to decline (Figures 7.1, 7.2).

FIGURE 7.1. DYNAMICS OF THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF CRIMES AND REPORTED CRIMES

[Rosstat](#) / thousand people

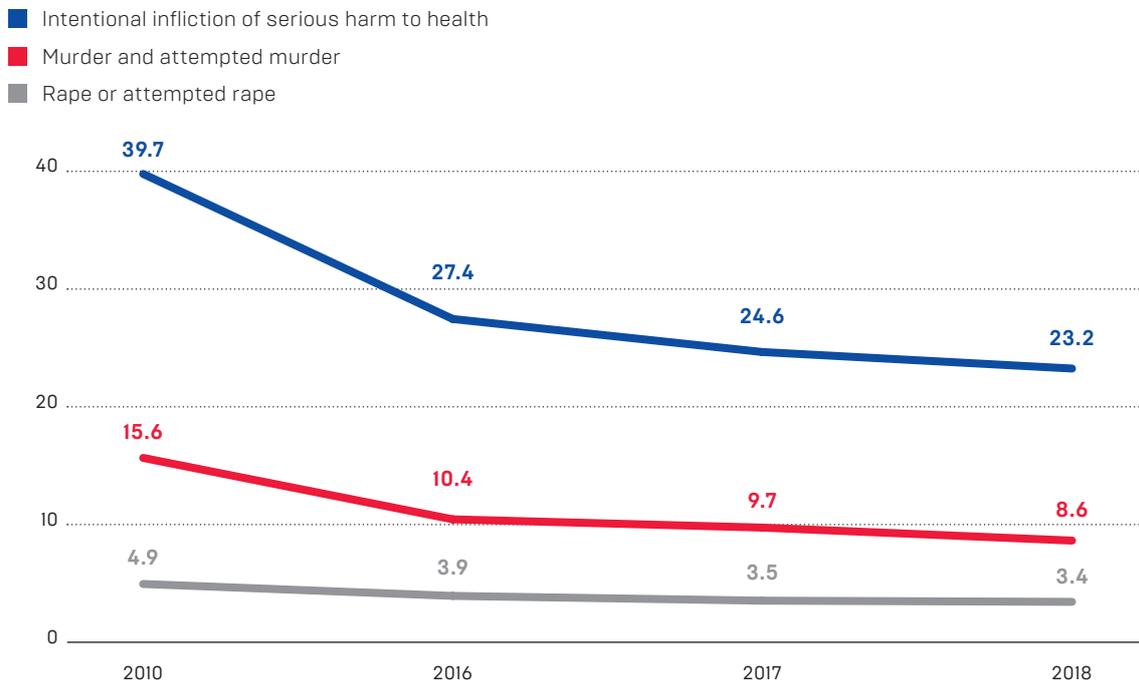


⁴¹ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 410-r of 8 March 2017.

⁴² Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 2943-r of 7 December 2019.

FIGURE 7.2. DYNAMICS OF THE REPORTED CRIMES

Rosstat / thousand cases



In April 2018, the Criminal Procedure Code Russian Federation was supplemented by a new preventive measure: the court may impose on a suspected or accused person a prohibition of communication with certain persons. This preventive measure is an analog of foreign “restraining order” or “protection order”.

In 2018, The Center for Assistance to Victims of Domestic Violence [project](#) was launched to provide legal assistance on domestic violence issues within the Russian Federation. Presently, the Center has 4 branches (in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Rostov-on-Don and Ekaterinburg). From the date of opening to 30 June 2019 the Center [provided](#) 1,473 consultations and took under control 135 cases, of them 69 criminal cases, 40 civil cases and 26 administrative offence cases.

Eliminate all harmful practices (Target 5.3)

According to Article 12 of the Family Code of the Russian Federation (the Family Code), to enter into a marriage, the voluntary consent of the man and of the woman entering into it and their having reached the marriageable age (eighteen year of age) shall be necessary (part 1 of Article 13 of the Family Code) or, in special circumstances provided for by federal and local legislation, an earlier age, but not under 14 years of age (part 2 of Article 13 of the Family Code).

According to Rosstat data, most Russian brides are within the 20 to 34 age group. The number of women entering into a marriage after 35 years of age has been gradually increasing. According to the Rosstat sample survey of family planning, in 2017 the proportion of women aged 20 to 24 who entered into a marriage or marital union before 15 years of age was 0.3%, and before 18 years of age – 5.9%. Therefore, currently, there are only isolated cases of early marriages in Russia.

Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life (Target 5.5)

According to Rosstat, in 2019 the proportion of women aged 15+ in the labor force was 55.4% (men – 70.6%), employment rate – 52.9% (men – 67.3%), unemployment rate – 4.4% (men – 4.8%).

The State Programme “Promotion of Employment of Population” includes measures to promote employment of women bring up children and is aimed at enabling women, upon referral of the employment service bodies, to receive vocational training and return to the former workplace (having updated professional knowledge and skills), or, after the end of the leave to care for a child until the age of three, find new employment, more suitable for combining work with the childcare duties.

“Demography” National Project includes “Promotion of Women’s Employment – Creation of Conditions for Preschool Education for Children Aged under Three” Federal Project (measures provided for by National Project are also presented in SDG 4 section).

In 2018 Women Business Index increased (to 69%), as well as the number of socially important social projects implemented by women and of women volunteers and charity organizations⁴³.

Case study

Women’s public organizations

One of the forms of women’s social activity are women’s public organizations. Some of public organizations operating in the Russian Federation are presented below.

Women’s Union of Russia

[Women’s Union of Russia](#) (WUOR) is an all-Russian public-state organization established in 1990 and, on an ongoing basis, implementing the following long-term projects:

- “School of social activity”, to improve legal competence;
- “For clean Housing, for clean Country, for clean Planet”, under which regions of the Russian Federation promote and assist the development of ecological culture;
- “Symbol of the small homeland” (an all-Russian action to promote social and cultural partnership of local women’s councils with cultural and educational institutions);
- different programmes for developing volunteering and coaching.

⁴³ The 2018 Report of the Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation.

Case study

Eurasian Women's Forum

[Eurasian Women's Forum](#) is a major international platform for discussing women's role in contemporary society organized by the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the CIS. In September 2018, the 2nd Eurasian Women's Forum "Women for Global Security and Sustainable Development" was held, which included more than 65 events attended by more than 10,000 participants. New discussion formats, such as the meeting of the International Discussion Club of Women Governors, summit of women diplomats, and presentation of the BRICS Women Business Alliance, were arranged for the first time. The Forum addressed the issues of improvement of women's economic position, promotion and support of women's entrepreneurship in the context of digital economy, women's health, and women's participation in the development of agriculture, science and sports⁴⁴. The 3rd Eurasian Women's Forum will be held in 2021.

APEC BEST project

The BEST (Business Efficiency and Success Target) project has been implemented since 2016 within the APEC forum of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation in cooperation with the OPORA Russia Committee for Support of Women's Entrepreneurship. Under the project, the most promising women entrepreneurship projects from regions of the Russian Federation are selected, which may compete on international platforms and may further be scaled up as Russian best practices and successful business models.

"SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative" National Project includes education programs and trainings aimed at the development of entrepreneurial competences, including in women, and provides for a number of services and measures to support small- and medium-sized enterprises in My Business centers, including financial (credit, guarantee, leasing) services, consulting and education support in the establishment and modernization of enterprises, and women social entrepreneurship.

Today Russia is one of leaders in the number of women entrepreneurs and women leaders. Russia is the 3rd country in the world in respect of the proportion of women in executive positions, with more than 30% of women members of boards of directors.

There are many women deputies of regional legislative assemblies of regions of the Russian Federation, members of public chambers, public councils, commissions, they take an active part in election campaigns to legislative authorities of all levels. [As at 1 January 2019](#), there were 16.7% of women in the Federal Assembly, 18.3% in the Federation Council and 16.1% in the State Duma.

⁴⁴ The 2018 [Report](#) on the implementation of National Action Strategy for Women 2017–2022.

Case study

Women in city leadership

The Eurasia Regional Section of the World organization “United Cities and Local Governments”⁴⁵ conducted a survey to estimate the number of women leaders in city administrations and the number of women deputies in large-population cities in the Eurasian region. The survey findings showed that women are best of all represented in the city council in Moscow (40%, 18 women of 45 deputies). The average women representation rate in city administrations in Russia is 27.6%, in city councils – 18.5%. The general average women participation rate in city leadership is 23.1%.

In addition, as a donor, Russia makes a considerable contribution into international efforts to promote employment and create opportunities for education of women and youth, primarily in rural areas. Thus, the Russia-UNDP Trust Fund for Development launched the following projects: [Social and Economic Opportunities for Women and Youth in Zeravshan Valley of Tajikistan](#) (2017–2019, budget: USD 1.5 mln), and [Youth for Business and Innovations, Tajikistan](#) (2019–2021, budget: USD 1 mln).

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (Target 5.6)

For health reasons, everyone has the right for free of charge consultations on family planning, socially significant diseases and diseases that pose danger to others, on medical and psychological aspects of marital relations, and for medicogenetic and other consultations and examinations in healthcare organizations of the state healthcare system to prevent potential hereditary and congenital diseases in children.

In the Russian Federation, motherhood is protected and promoted by the state. Every woman during pregnancy, childbirth, and postnatal period is provided with medical assistance in healthcare organizations under the programme of state guarantees of free medical assistance. Efficient nutrition to pregnant women, nursing mothers and children aged under three, including through special food providing centers and trade outlets, is provided on prescription in accordance with the legislation of the regions of the Russian Federation.

To improve accessibility and quality of healthcare for women and children, the three-tier perinatal care system has been established.

⁴⁵ Data provided by the Eurasian office of the United Cities and Local Governments.

Improvement of women's and girl's health is also promoted by "Healthcare" National Project and "Public Health Promotion" and "Sports is the Norm of Life" Federal Projects (subprojects of "Demography" National Project).

Medical assistance to prevent abortions is provided free of charge under the programme of state guarantees. Purchase of contraceptives is financed under the territorial programmes of state guarantees of free medical assistance for the relevant year. According to the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, the proportion of women using high-efficiency contraceptive methods (intrauterine devices and hormonal contraceptives) was 22.9% of women of fertile age (data provided in September 2019). As a result, in 2015–2018 the number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–49 reduced from 23.8 to 19.0, and the number of abortions per 100 births — from 44 to 41.5.

Information on healthcare services provided to population is also presented in SDG 3 section.

Looking forward

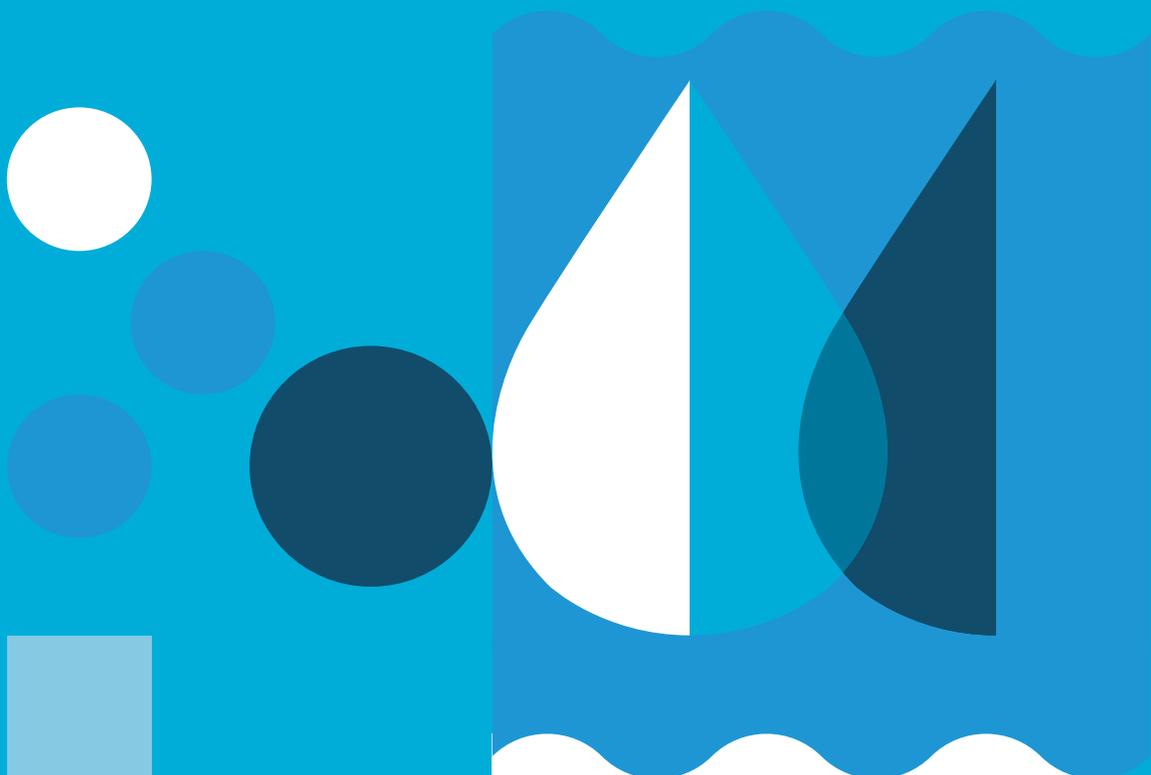
Russian women are well educated and are active participants in the social life. The principal SDG 5 target for the Russian Federation for the next few years is the consolidation of women's positions in the Russian society. In this regard, the basic directions of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls include⁴⁶:

- improved access and quality of healthcare services for women and girls;
- creation of conditions for women's vocational education in advanced economic areas providing ample opportunities for employment in high-paying jobs;
- reduction of difference in the rates of men's and women's pay;
- increased competitiveness of women on the labor market;
- broader opportunities for engagement of women in small- and medium-sized enterprise;
- increased social responsibility of employers in respect of women of family;
- improved social security of women;
- prevention of social ill-being of and violence against women.

⁴⁶ National Action Strategy for Women 2017–2022.

SDG 6

Ensure availability
and sustainable management
of water and sanitation for all



Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (Target 6.1)

In 2018, 91.5% of Russia's population [had access to safe drinking water](#) (see Statistical Annex). From 2010, this indicator increased by 4.9 p.p., and from 2015 – by 1.1 p.p. In 2018, the [proportion](#) of urban settlement population that had access to safe drinking water was 96.2% [95.0% in 2015], of rural settlement population – 77.7% [77.2% in 2015]. Water consumption in the Russian Federation is largely satisfied due to fresh water intake.

In 2014–2018, the [proportion of households that have access to centralized water supply](#) increased from 86.7% to 90.3%. This trend was observed both in urban and rural areas, where in 2018 about 70% of households had running water, with 11.5 mln persons (9.0%) having [water](#) from non-centralized water supply; 0.8 mln persons (0.6%) having drinking water brought by tanker-truck; 1.5 mln persons (1.2% of total population) having no access to drinking water.

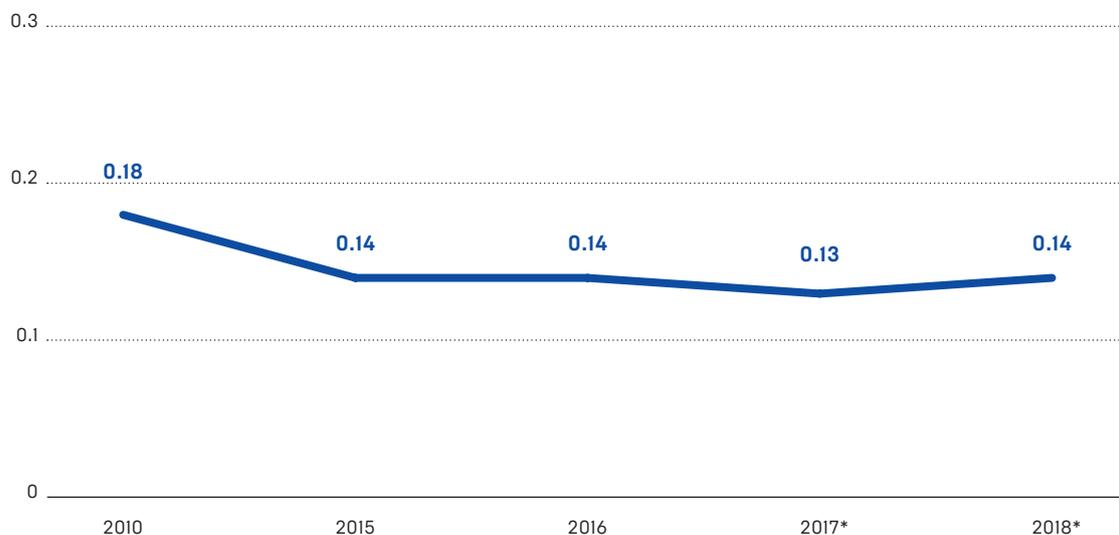
In 2018, average water consumption per person was 0.14 cubic meter per day (Figure 8), which was equal to 2015 level but 22.2% less than in 2010.

In 2018, the proportion of population that had access to safe water supply services [was](#) 93.6%.

It is important to note that the territorial distribution of water resources in Russia [is unequal](#). Thus, their availability in the Southern Federal District and Far Eastern Federal District differs by more than 10-fold. This is due, in particular, to unequal river run-off (the Arctic Ocean and Pacific Ocean basins account for 84% of surface water) and seasonal factors (in most Russian regions 2/3 of run-off take place in 2–3 spring flood months).

FIGURE 8. DYNAMICS OF AVERAGE WATER CONSUMPTION

Rosstat / m³ per capita per day



* Data for 2017–2018 was forecasted by polynominal trend line.

To supply the population of the northern regions of Russia with quality water, special equipment for water treatment and water supply under conditions of low temperatures and permafrost have been developed and manufactured, such as transportation, communications and utilities lines and tanks made from advanced polymer materials, including composite glass reinforced plastics; water treatment technologies are developed and adjusted.

To improve water supply quality and affordability, “Clean Water” Project is implemented as part of “Environment” National Project. The Ministry of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation concluded 82 agreements for provision of subsidies from the federal budget to the regions of the Russian Federation for construction and reconstruction (modernization) of water supply facilities for the total amount of 4.2 bln rubles.

Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all (Target 6.2)

The basic sanitation and hygiene facilities accessible to the population are centralized wastewater disposal (sewerage) system, and toilet facilities (in a house or stand-alone building)⁴⁷.

In 2018, about 86.9% of households in Russia [had a toilet](#) in an apartment or a house – an increase as against 2016 (84.1%); 12.6% had toilets in common use (for instance, in a shared apartment) or a toilet in a stand-alone building.

In 2018, the proportion of population using safe sanitation services⁴⁸ [was 85.8%](#).

Improve water quality by reducing pollution (Target 6.3)

The principal sources of pollution of water bodies are industrial enterprises, energy sector, housing and public utility sector, agricultural enterprise wastewaters, etc.⁴⁹. In 2015–2018, [discharged pollutant volumes](#) reduced both in general – from 14.4 bln m³ to 13.1 bln m³ (by 9%) and by primary sectors, other than transport⁵⁰, with the maximum reduction (11.2%.) in the manufacturing sector.

The prevailing water source pollutions include mineralization, turbidity, color of water, etc. In Russia generally, these types of pollution exist in 21.2% of water samples at water sources.

To modernize the water and sewage utilities, 516 investment programmes in water supply were approved with the total amount of investments (according to information from regions) of 134.4 bln rubles.

⁴⁷ The availability of a toilet facility does not necessarily mean simultaneous availability of centralized wastewater disposal (sewerage) system.

⁴⁸ Percentage of population living in housing with the sewerage system and toilet in a house/apartment in the total population, except for people living in bed-type dormitories and other types of housing (yurts, reindeer skin tents, etc.).

⁴⁹ According to the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 350

“On the ‘Development of the Water Resources Utilization System of the Russian Federation in 2012–2020 “Federal Target Programme” of 19 April 2012.

In addition to “Clean Water” Project within “Environment” National Project, in April 2017, Strategy of Ecological Safety of the Russian Federation 2025⁵¹ was approved. One of the Strategy priorities is the introduction of technologies aimed at reducing the volume or mass of pollutant discharges into water bodies.

The reform of environmental legislation carried out by the Government of the Russian Federation⁵² provides for the transition to BAT (best available technology) – based technological standardization in order to introduce such technologies at water and sewage utilities, encourage water users to introduce BAT and circulating water systems, and to increase investment in water treatment.

Strategy for the Development of Inland Water Transport in the Russian Federation 2030 sets the target to ensure ecologically safe operation of vessels, prevent vessel-source pollution with domestic waste, wastewater and oily waste, oil and other substances hazardous to human health and aquatic biological resources.

Increase water-use efficiency and address the problem of water scarcity (Target 6.4)

The basic [water use area](#) is water supply for production needs. In 2018, it accounted for 55.3% of the total volume of used water; 14.4% were used for drinking and domestic, household and practical needs; 12.4% – for irrigation; 0.7% – for agricultural water supply. In 2010–2018, the maximum reduction of water use (by 20.4%) was observed in drinking and domestic, household and practical needs.

The technologies of recycling of industrial water play an important role in water supply in industry. Thus, in 2015–2018, [recycling water supply for production needs](#) allowing the reduction of water intake from natural sources in Russia increased from 138.9 bln m³ to 144.2 bln m³ per year or by 3.8%, or 2.7 times more than the total fresh water use volumes in Russia generally, and satisfied more than 80% of industrial demand.

Water consumption efficiency is also improved due to compulsory installation of cold and hot water consumption meters in houses and apartments. Thus, in 2014–2018, the proportion of households with installed cold water consumption meters [increased](#) from 66.4% to 80.7%, and hot water consumption meters – from 43.3% to 53.4%.

In late 2017, Russia launched new initiatives and projects that may have a considerable impact on the development of water supply and wastewater disposal, and water use technologies, such as VEB.RF’s Project Finance Factory, which will support, among others, projects provided for by “Environment” National Project (“Clean Water” and “Transition to Best Available Technologies” Federal Projects). As at 17 March 2020, 45 concession agreements on water supply and wastewater disposal with the total amount of investments commitments of 178.5 bln rubles⁵³ were concluded. Concession water supply and wastewater disposal projects are implemented in 25 regions of the Russian Federation.

⁵⁰ Major transport companies make all reasonable efforts to reduce water pollution. Thus, in 2018, [JSC Russian Railways affiliates](#) reduced dirty discharges into surface water bodies by 0.616 mln m³ (9.6%) as against 2017.

⁵¹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 176 of 19 April 2017.

⁵² Under the Federal Law No. 219-FZ of 21 July 2014.

Case study

Business investment in the development of sustainable water use

United Chemical Company Uralchem JSC

From 2010, the Fertilizer Plant of the Kirovo-Chepetsk chemical integrated works has been using the water purification system based on membrane technology, one of the most advanced technologies of today. The system peak productivity is 600 m³/h, one of the best indicators countrywide. The application in production of demineralized water from the new water-treatment system enabled to solve the problem of utilization of high-mineralized wastewater

Implement integrated water resources management (Target 6.5)

The state water resource management in Russia is characterized by the integrated approach. The Water Code of the Russian Federation defines the underlying principles of water legislation, such as “priority of protection of water bodies before their use” and “priority of use of water bodies for the purposes of drinking and public water supply over other purposes of their use”.

Watershed districts [21] are the principal management units in the area of water bodies use and protection and include river basins and related underground water bodies and seas. To exercise water bodies management, all watershed districts have district councils composed of representatives of governmental authorities, local authorities, water consumers, public associations, and indigenous small ethnic communities of the North, Siberia, and Russian Far East.

Russia focuses on developing systems of digital management of water resources, such as [“Digital Ob-Irtysh River Basin”](#) Federal Project for integrated water resources management, which is currently under discussion. The project provides for the creation of the first in the world digital river basin duplicate as a family of interrelated forecast information, simulation and mathematical models. Moscow implements “Smart City – 2030” project, which provides for the implementation and development of digital technologies for water supply and wastewater disposal management.

The basic principles of the state policy in the area of water bodies use and protection are provided for by Water Strategy of the Russian Federation 2020. The principal goals of the Strategy are guaranteed supply of population and economic sectors with water resources; protection and restoration of water bodies; protection from negative effect of waters.

Currently, the basic issues of sanitation and drinking water supply to population are addressed as part of the implementation of the Decree No. 204 through “Environment” National Project.

⁵³ Agreements for more than 100 mln rubles.

Protect and restore water-related ecosystems (Target 6.6)

“Environment” National Project includes eleven Federal Projects, four of them are water resources-related projects, including “Preservation of Unique Water Bodies”, “Preservation of Lake Baikal”, and “Volga Recovery”. The basic efforts aimed at protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems are described in SDG 14 and SDG 15 sections.

Expand international cooperation in water-efficiency and protection of water resources (Target 6.a)

Russia participates in international cooperation under a number of fundamental conventions and agreements, namely, the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage (supplement to the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage), Brussels, 1971; Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, Moscow – Washington – London – Mexico City, 1972; Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, Helsinki, 1992 (Water Convention); and Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea, Teheran, 2003.

The Russian Federation entered into a number of key intergovernmental agreements on protection and use of water bodies with Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia, Ukraine, Finland and Estonia.

The Agreement on General Principles of Interaction in Rational Use and Protection of Transboundary Water Bodies of the CIS Member States was signed in Moscow in 1998 and took effect as from 6 June 2002. The intention of the Agreement is to address important problems, such as assessment of damage caused to water bodies on a common methodological basis; abandonment of water-related practice that could have a negative impact on environment, including water bodies.

Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management (Target 6.b)

One of the [priorities of the state policy of the Russian Federation](#) is the systematic, purposeful environmental education and development of public environmental awareness.

The Russian Federation strengthens the participation of local communities by supporting the establishment and activities of associations of non-governmental organizations. Enhanced financing of science and grant support facilitate efficient development of awareness.

Case study

Water use education

Clean Seas Ecological Fund

[Clean Seas Ecological Fund](#) implements a number of ecological education projects in water use and protection of water bodies. Project activities enable to cultivate in children, through games and education, careful attitude towards water and water life and promote environmental responsibility in the younger generation.

Water Map of Russia

The Health Info portal supported by the Federal Service for Consumer Rights Protection and Human Welfare implemented the project to develop a publicly available online [interactive map of water quality within Russia](#). The project special portal displays information on water quality in terms of content of harmful impurities and microorganisms and information on possible risks for health when using water in a particular region or locality.

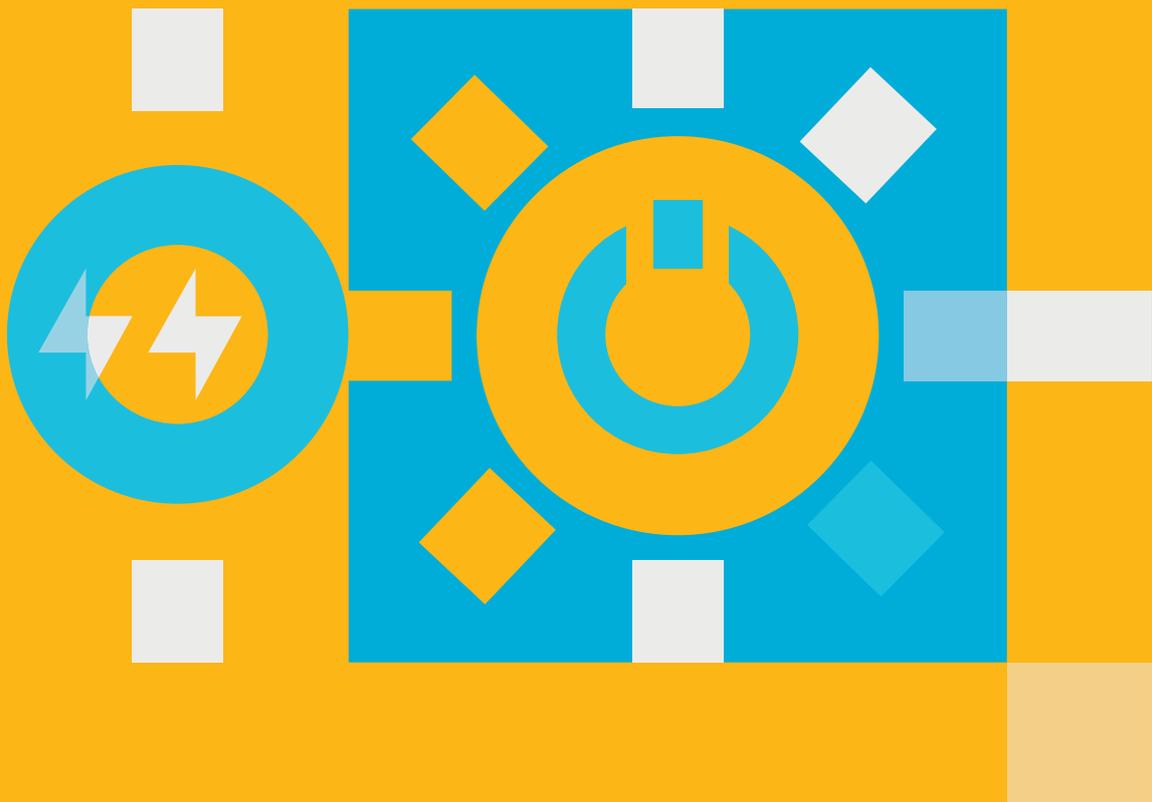
Looking forward

To solve urgent problems of water supply in Russia, measures aimed at modernization and building of water facilities are implemented. The current water resources management forms are being transformed into to a more flexible and adaptive management system and strategy.

Such measures are aimed at improving the quality of water affordable for population, reconstruction and modernization of unsatisfactory utility and drinking water supply system, and improvement of water management efficiency.

SDG 7

Ensure access to affordable, reliable,
sustainable and modern energy



Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services (Target 7.1)

Russia has adequate primary and secondary energy resources, with domestic production exceeding consumption.

Electric energy

In 2018, 100% of Russia's population had access to electric energy.

In the Doing Business 2020 ranking Russia improved her positions and was in the top ten (ranked 7th of 190 countries) in terms of ease of getting electricity. The connection time almost halved, to 38 day, in particular, due to digitization and optimization of state services related to electric connection. In the long term, it is planned to introduce an electronic connection procedure through a single all-Russian portal.

From 2017, the energy demand management mechanism has been put in place for large electricity consumers in Russia, which promotes the optimization of consumption regimes and reduction of electric energy prices on the electric power wholesale market. From 2019, the energy demand management practice has been applied to retail market consumers as well.

Electric power systems of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, and Estonia operate in parallel with the Unified Energy System (UES) of Russia. Electric power systems of Central Asia – Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan, operate in parallel with UES of Russia through the electric power system of Kazakhstan. From Russian power lines, electric energy is transmitted, in particular, through power grids to electric power systems of China, Norway and Finland.

Hydropower

Hydroelectric plants (HEPs) significantly contribute to the reduction of the electric energy cost in Russia. The cost of electric energy generation by HEPs is considerably less than for thermal and nuclear power plants, as well as for electric power plants using other renewable energy sources (RESs). HEPs enable to ensure reliable water supply, arid land irrigation, flood prevention and operation of water transport.

Nuclear power generation

Nuclear power generation is an important element of reliable electric power supply in the Russian Federation. It [covers](#) about 19% of Russia's energy requirements. The Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation (Rosatom) is a major generating company in Russia and holds a prominent position on the world nuclear technology markets (NPP construction in foreign countries, uranium enrichment services, nuclear fuel fabrication, etc.). Nuclear power generation is a low-carbon generation that promotes the reduction of CO₂ emissions. Operation of all Russian-designed NPPs in the world saves about 210 mln tons of CO₂-equivalent annually, including 107 mln tons of CO₂-equivalent in the Russian Federation (the estimate based on the world structure of electric energy generation by sources for 2018).

The nuclear power generation enables to supply energy to remote areas, including the Arctic and Far North. Thus, the “Akademik Lomonosov”, Rosatom’s first in the world floating nuclear power unit (FPU) located in Pevek, Chukotka Autonomous District, supplies electric energy and heat to the regional population and industrial facilities.

Heat supply

To encourage long-term investments in heat supply and replacement of old heat supply systems by new-generation networks with drastic reduction of losses, a new heat market model providing for transition to the long-term and transparent tariff setting is introduced, which will promote, among other things, the priority development of more economically and ecologically efficient cogeneration of heat and electric energy.

Natural gas

Natural gas accounts for more than half of domestic consumption of primary energy resources in Russia. Gas distribution network development in Russian regions is a large-scale socially important project aimed at improvement of the quality of life in Russia.

About 90% of gas pipelines built by Public Joint Stock Company Gazprom (Gazprom) in 2005–2018 are intended for gas supply to rural communities. The total gas pipelines length is about 30,000 km, which enabled to supply natural gas to more than 752,000 households, and more than 5,000 boiler stations and facilities in about 4,000 villages and hamlets. Therefore, as at 1 January 2019, the provision of gas supply to Russian rural areas in that period increased from 34.8% in 2005 to 59.4%, i.e., by about 1.7-fold⁵⁴.

Mineral coal

Coal accounts for about 15% of domestic consumption of primary energy resources. Some coal-using thermal electric stations have been transferred to using natural gas as fuel.

Oil products

Russian consumers are fully supplied with oil products. Civil turnover of motor petrol lower than K5 or Euro-5 classes was prohibited in Russia and other Customs Union (EAEU) countries from 1 July 2016.

Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix (Target 7.2)

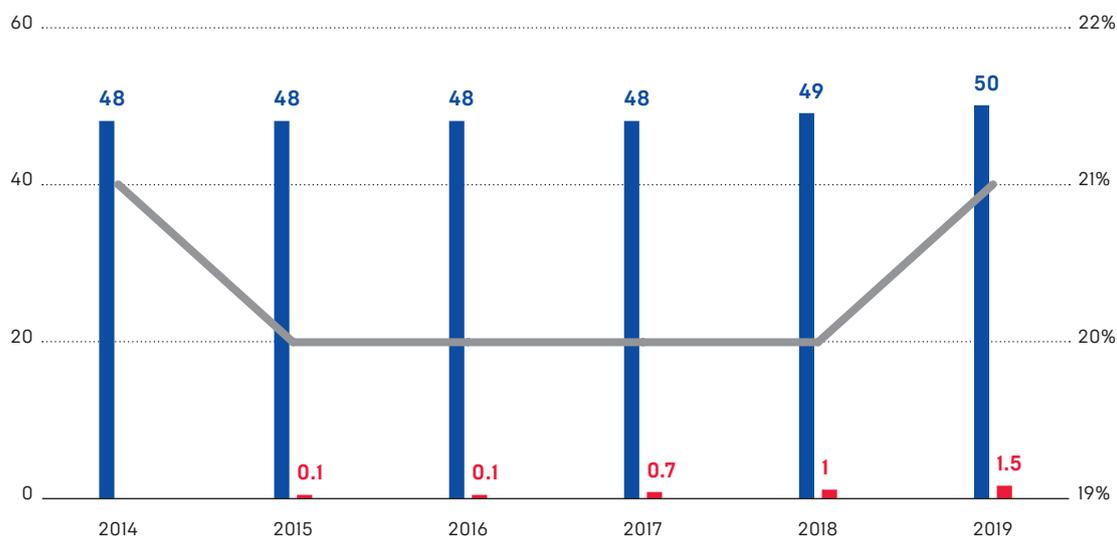
Russia has a developed hydropower industry. As at 1 January 2020, the aggregate capacity of HEPs in UES of Russia was 50 GW, or 20.2% of the rated capacity of all electric power plants (Figures 9.1, 9.2). In 2019, electric energy generation by HEPs within UES of Russia was 190 bln kWh, or 17.6% of the total electric energy production in Russia — one of the highest indicators for major powers. In 2019, the total share of RESs (HEPs and other RESs) in the electric energy mix was 17.8%, or 1.5 p.p. more than in 2014.

⁵⁴ In 2005–2018, provision of gas supply to rural areas [increased](#) 1.7-fold — from 34.8% to 59.4%.

FIGURE 9.1. INSTALLED CAPACITY OF POWER PLANTS OF UES OF RUSSIA

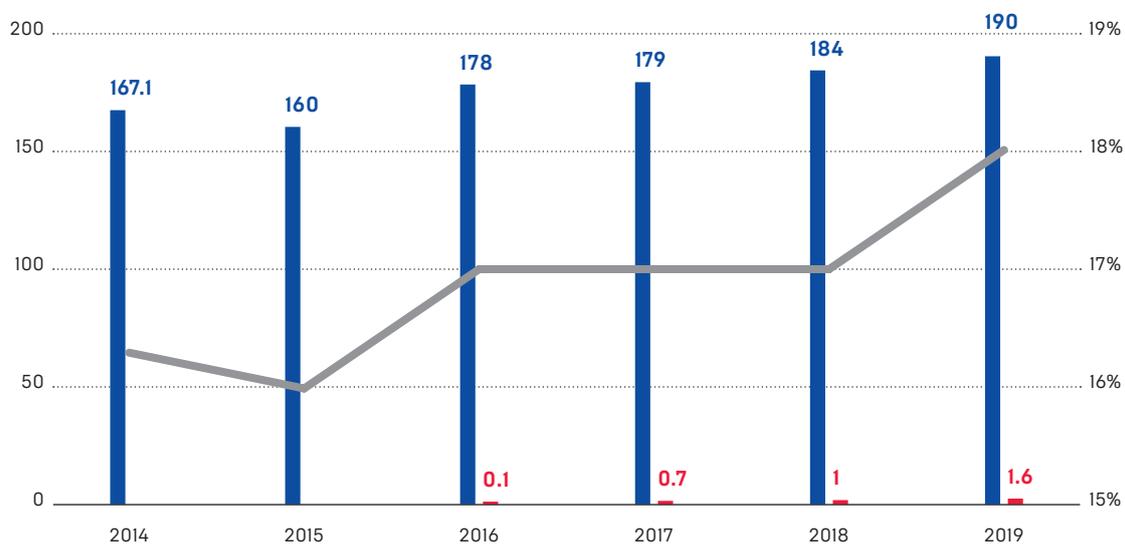
UES, Analytical Centre estimates

- HEPs capacity, GW
- Other RESs capacity, GW
- Share of HEPs and RESs capacities, % [right axis]

**FIGURE 9.1. ENERGY BALANCE IN THE UES OF RUSSIA**

UES, Analytical Centre estimates

- HEPs generation, bln kWh
- Other RESs generation, bln kWh
- Share of HEPs and other RESs generation, % [right axis]



The majority of hydroenergy units in Russia were built more than 40 years ago, and, therefore, most of energy providers implement programmes for technical reconstruction and modernization of equipment.

Case study

En+ Group IPJSC

From 2007, En+Group IPJSC has been implementing the “New Energy” programme of modernization of Siberian HEPs, in particular, large-scale reconstruction and primary equipment replacement at Krasnoyarsk, Bratsk, Irkutsk and Ust-Ilimsk HEPs. The “New Energy” will have an impact on ecology in Siberian regions: electric energy generated by HEPs will partially replace electric energy generated by coal-fired power plants, which will enable to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by coal-fired power plants by 2.6 mln tons of CO₂ per year by 2025.

In addition to major hydroenergy production facilities, Russia has more than 100 small HEPs (with capacity below 25 MW).

To develop RES projects, Russia implements the mechanism of Renewable Power Supply Agreements (RPSA)⁵⁵. This support mechanism provides for annual competitive selections of investment projects for construction of RES-based generating facilities (solar generation, wind generation, hydrogeneration⁵⁶) and conclusion of renewable power supply agreements (RPSA) in respect of selected projects, that would guarantee return on investment due to increased payments of the wholesale energy market.

In 2014–2019, the total capacity of commissioned alternative RES-based facilities in Russia was more than 1.1 GW (about half in 2019), of them more than 90% solar generation. Annual commissioning of RES facilities is increasing (Figure 10), and the trend is expected to continue in the near future.

In accordance with the principal directions of the state policy in the improvement of energy efficiency of the electric energy sector based on RES use⁵⁷, the overall target of commissioned rated capacities of RES-based generating facilities by 2024 is to reach 5,552 MW, of them 60.9%—wind power plants (WPPs), 35.2%—solar power plants (SPPs), and the rest—minihydroelectric plants (MHEPs).

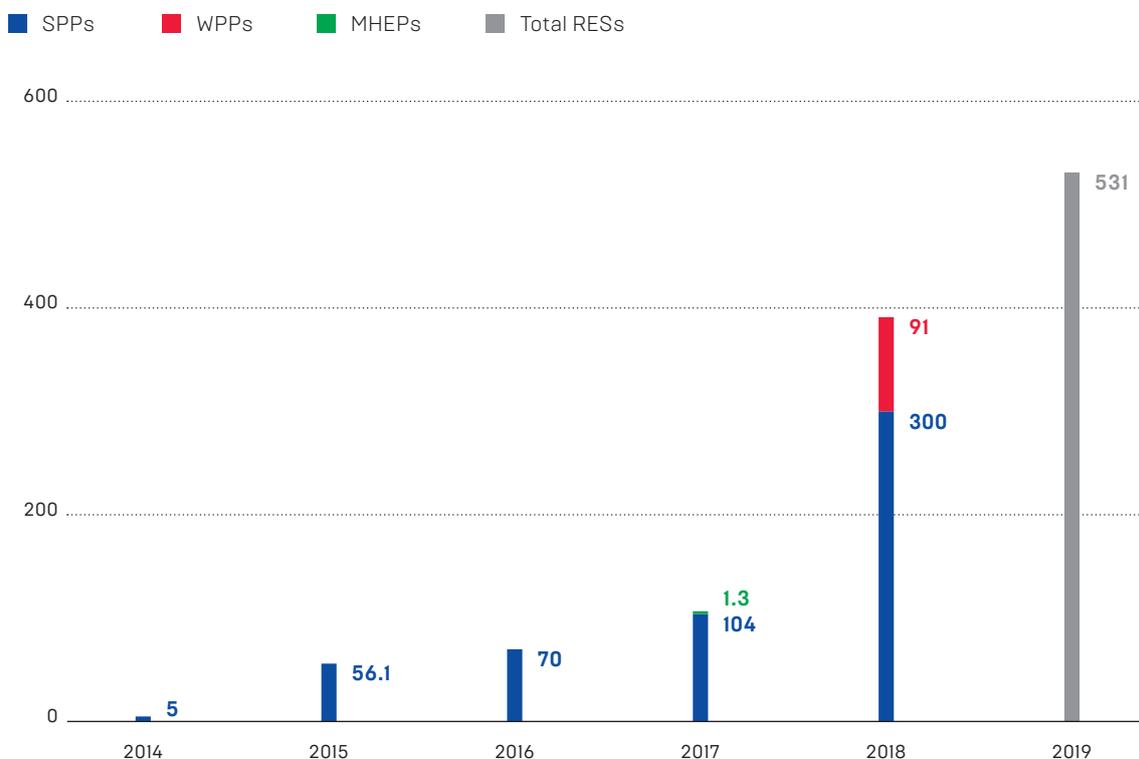
⁵⁵ Federal Law No. 35-FZ on Electric-Power Industry of 26 March 2003.

⁵⁶ Hydrogeneration—less than 25 mW, except for Pumped-Storage Electric Power Plants.

⁵⁷ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1-r of 8 January 2009.

FIGURE 10. COMMISSIONING OF RES FACILITIES (EXCLUSIVE OF MAJOR HEPS)

Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation / MW



Conditions are created for the development of RES-based microgeneration (below 15 kW) in private households, which would promote the development of distributed generation. The use of other RESs, such as biomass-based energy production, is rapidly developing.

Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency (Target 7.3)

By the end of 2018, the GDP energy intensity in the Russian Federation reduced by 12% against 2007. However, in the wider observation horizon (2000–2018), the Russian GDP energy intensity reduced by more than 40%, with about double GDP growth (181% of 2000 level) (Figure 11).

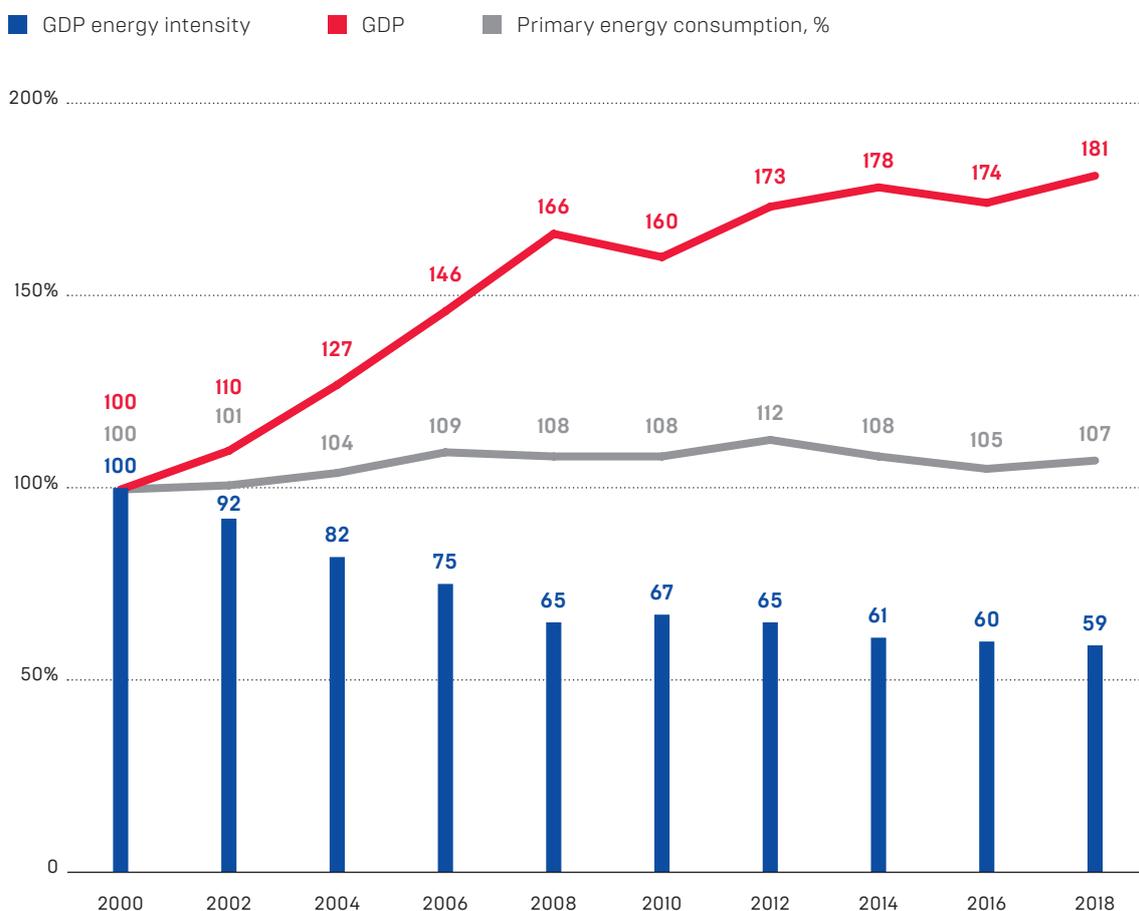
There were noticeable shifts in GDP breakdown in favor of less power consuming sectors. Consistent reduction of consumption of fuel and energy resources due to technology factor was demonstrated in electric energy production, manufacturing sector and transport sector.

The Complex plan to improve the energy efficiency of the Russian economy⁵⁸ adopted in 2018 provides for an increased contribution of the technology factor into reduction of GDP energy intensity.

⁵⁸ Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 703-r of 19 April 2018.

FIGURE 11. DYNAMICS OF THE RUSSIAN GDP ENERGY INTENSITY

Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation / %



Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology (Target 7.a)

The Russian Federation is a member of such organizations as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD NEA), International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and supports the UN clean energy technology agenda, including UNFCCC. Russia is a major donor of the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund and Technical Cooperation Programme, with an annual contribution of [more than EUR 2 mln.](#)

The Russian Federation facilitates access to ecologically clean energy research and technology within the regional cooperation framework, including BRICS, Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and within G20. Russia took part in the establishment of the BRICS New Development Bank that mobilizes resources for infrastructure and sustainable development projects in BRICS

and developing countries⁵⁹. The total authorized capital of the Bank is USD 100 bln. As at the end of 2018, 27% of approved credits (USD 2.2 bln) of the BRICS New Development Bank [were related](#) to clean energy and 8% (USD 700 mln) – to eco-efficiency. The BRICS Youth Energy Agency (BRICS YEA) is an international youth organization with the objectives of ensuring cooperation of BRICS countries in energy sector and promoting the development of research and analytical potential. The implementation of relevant projects will be facilitated by the BRICS Energy Research Platform initiated by Russia and institutionalized at the BRICS summit on 13–14 November 2019 in Brazil.

In G20 Russia participated in the development of general approaches to the establishment of cleaner and more flexible energy systems, improvement of energy efficiency and encouragement of energy saving. These principles were outlined in the Communique and Action Plan on Innovations adopted by the meeting of Ministers of Energy and Ecology on 15–16 June 2019. The summit of G20 leaders in Osaka on 28–29 June 2019 supported the idea of the Japanese presidency to create the Platform for Clean Energy Technology Research; the first Platform conference was held on 11 October 2019 in Tokyo. Russia joined the Energy Efficiency Hub established in November 2019 in pursuance of the G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth adopted in 2017.

Expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all (Target 7.b)

Guaranteed supply of affordable electric energy, including due to the development of distributed generation and introduction of intelligent power supply network economy management systems based on digital technologies is a priority of the state policy of the Russian Federation until 2024.⁶⁰

The Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) provides for the building of common energy markets: electric energy, oil and oil products, and gas. The EAEU common electric energy market on the basis of parallel-operating grids is to be launched by 1 January 2025. It will promote more efficient use of rated capacities and enhancement of reliability of electricity supply to member countries.

The energy infrastructure in the Russian Federation is being intensively transformed through introduction of digital technologies and platform solutions, with digitization as the main driver of the technological transformation of the Russian Fuel and Energy Complex (FEC). The Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation [developed](#) “Digital Energy Industry” Sectoral Project. In 2019, the Ministry established the Council for Digital Transformation of FEC Sectors; leading Russian FEC companies, with the participation of the Ministry, established competence centers in electric-power supply, oil, gas and coal industries. Their objectives include the determination of digital transformation priorities and development of sectoral roadmaps.

⁵⁹ The Agreement establishing the Bank was signed in 2014; Bank’s General Strategy 2017–2021 was adopted in 2017.

⁶⁰ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 204 of 7 May 2018.

Skolkovo-based Cluster of Energy Efficient Technologies is targeted at creating an environment for support of research and development in production and efficient use of energy resources, with a focus on innovative solutions for oil and gas industry, electric-power supply industry, production, transport and public utilities sectors. The cluster unites big- and small-sized businesses, entrepreneurs, and ventures companies. By the end of 2018, it included about 450 members.

In 2016, under the National Technological Initiative, the EnergyNet Roadmap aimed at joining together the efforts of private sector and the government to support the launching of new products and services of Russian companies into the global new energy markets was approved. The basic EnergyNet elements include demand management, client service, commercial and industrial microgrids, remote microgrids, smart grids, energy storage, hydrogen energy generation and fuel cells.

Looking forward

The Russian Federation is the largest country in the world in terms of territory and has exclaves, with uneven territorial distribution of the population, part of them living in isolated and hard-to-reach areas and in harsh climatic conditions. The Unified Energy System of Russia (UES of Russia) covers the main populated regions. UES of Russia includes 71 regional electric power systems, which, in turn, form 7 united power grids: East, Siberia, Urals, mid-Volga, South, Center and North-West. All energy grids within UES of Russia are connected by interconnection high-voltage power transmission lines and operate synchronously (in parallel). To supply energy to isolated and hard-to-reach territories, fuel is brought from other districts or regions. However, the objective of enhancing the reliability of energy supply to such territories remains the issue of the day.

Alternative RESs are not widely used in Russia yet, as, without additional support, they, as a rule, are not competitive enough as compared to traditional energy resources. Their current share in electric energy generation in the Russian Federation is less than 1%. However, the energy balance in Russia is fairly clean, where natural gas (with the lowest greenhouse gas emissions among fossil fuels), nuclear energy and hydroenergy predominate. The Russian Federation implements mechanisms of support of alternative RESs.

SDG 8

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



Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances (Target 8.1)

The Russian economy has shown steady growth in 2016–2019. During that period, [GDP growth rates in current prices](#) amounted to 3% or up (4.8% in 2019), and accelerated from 0.2% in 2016 to 1.3% in 2019 [in constant prices](#). (Figure 12).

Meanwhile, household consumer spending [rose by 4.3% in 2018](#). Accelerated growth of real accrued monthly salaries (+0.8% y-o-y in 2016, +2.9% y-o-y in 2019) was one of the factors that boosted consumer demand.

Growing salaries were accompanied by declining [unemployment rates](#) (from 5.6% of the population aged from 15 to 72 in 2015 to 4.6% in 2019).

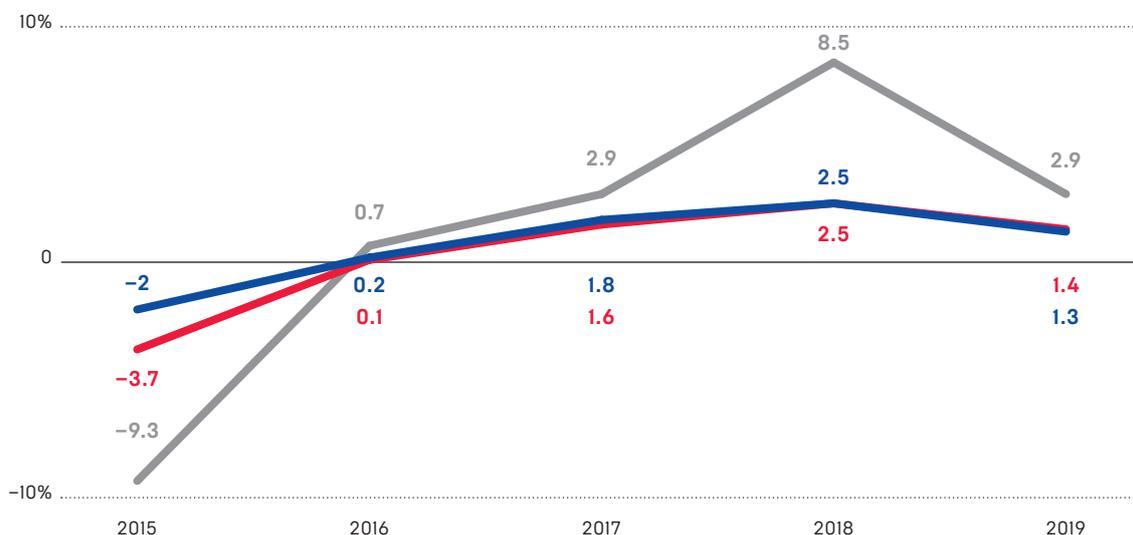
Decree No. 204 set the following goals in the development of the national economy (hereinafter referred to as the national economic development goals):

- Joining of the Russian Federation to the world's top 5 economies, and attainment of economic growth rates above global average while maintaining macroeconomic stability, including inflation rates equal to or below 4%;

FIGURE 12. ECONOMIC GROWTH INDICATORS

Y-o-y, %

- GDP growth in 2016 prices, %
- GDP growth per capita in 2016 prices, %
- Growth of real accrued monthly salaries, %



- Creation of highly productive export-oriented sectors based on modern technologies and skilled workforce in basic economic branches, primarily processing industries and the agro-industrial complex.

For the purpose of raising economic growth rates above global average, advancing of the investment-oriented growth model, and improving living standards, Russia will need to:

- Level up investment activity to 25% of total GDP:
 - Encourage investments from private companies through better investment climate, increased access to finance, and market extension (increase the invested profit margin to approximately 2% of total GDP by 2024),
 - Increase household savings through new, attractive long-term investment mechanisms and modified structure of loan supply (approximately by 1.1% of total GDP by 2024),
 - Enhance investment orientation of federal and regional budget expenses (approximately by 0.5% of total GDP by 2024),
 - Bolster public and quasi-public companies' investments, which will boost economic growth rates at a lesser financial cost.
- Boost economic activity of the population through increased demand for workforce from new investment projects, digitalized labor relations, employment of women with children, and labor-market development programmes in regions with a high level of structural unemployment. As a result, employment rates and personal incomes will go up;
- Assist in technological development in such areas as artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, and robotization, which will lead to a significant growth of labor productivity in relevant sectors and the economy as a whole.

An impetus was given to economic sectors other than oil and gas after 2015, and efforts were taken to diversify foreign economic activity: [non-resource non-oil export volumes](#) went up 11.6% year-on-year in 2018, while [exports of services](#) increased by more than 12% in nominal terms over the same period.

Russian companies navigate through the fluid market situation with the guidance from [socioeconomic development forecasts](#) prepared by the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation. There are a medium-term forecast and a long-term socioeconomic forecast, which serves as the fundamental document for the elaboration of federal, regional, and sectorial strategic planning documents, corporate strategic documents, and regional long-term forecasts.

The Management state automated system (GASU) has been created to facilitate managerial decisions of the authorities. [GAS "Upravlenie"](#) is a unified public database, which collects, keeps record, processes and analyzes public and municipal data, analytical data, official statistical data, and other data essential for managerial decisions of the authorities. The purpose of GAS "Upravlenie" is to avoid duplication of workflow and requests for analytical information exchanged between government agencies.

Alongside macroeconomic reforms, the Russian Government carried out a series of transformations to improve business climate. The transformations upgraded Russia's international rating.

[In the World Bank's Doing Business ranking](#), Russia climbed from the 123rd position in 2011 to the 28th position in 2020 (2019 publication). Its rating has been steadily upgraded in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report (Russia occupied 43rd position in that rating [in 2018](#), compared with 53rd in 2015–2016). In 2019, Russia retained its 43rd position in the [World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report](#).

Regional economic integration in the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) serves as an additional instrument of Russia's quality, sustainable economic growth. Free movement of goods, services, capitals, and workforce, and a coordinated policy implemented in economic sectors specified by the EAEU Treaty unlock the regional integration potential of member states, improve living standards of their residents, and allow them to achieve quality economic growth.

Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation (Target 8.2)

[The share of highly skilled employees](#) in the overall number of professional workforce exceeded 30% in recent years (32.3% in 2018, and 32.4% in 2019). Besides, the labor productivity index was demonstrating an upward trend: it grew from 0.1% to 2.8% y-o-y in the 2016–2018 period.

Efforts fostering employment were taken in 2018 within the framework of the Priority Programme "Raising Labor Productivity and Supporting Employment" and involved 68 companies. About 13,200 persons took part in proactive professional training and development programmes⁶¹.

A number of systemic measures will be taken in the context of "Workforce Productivity and Employment Support" National Project in 2018–2024. These include the development of financial instruments of state support for enterprises aimed to boost labor productivity (subsidies, preferential-rate loans), the elaboration and implementation of pilot projects providing tax preferences, and the advancement of the managerial personnel training system.

[The Federal Center for Labor Productivity Competences](#) (FCC) was established in 2017 to enhance quality of goods and services and to bolster competitive edge of the Russian economy. In particular, the center gives targeted expert support for enterprises with inefficient production processes. In addition, the FCC supports the Russian Award, "[Labor Productivity: Russia's Industry Leaders](#)" engaging companies from various industries (oil and gas production, metallurgy, light industry, food industry, and others).

⁶¹ "Report on 2018 Results of Activity of Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation and 2019 Objectives", 12 April 2019.

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 (Target 8.3)

Normative regulation by the Russian Government contributes to the development of small- and medium-sized businesses.

Significant legislative modifications were made in 2017–2019 and had a positive effect on the activity of small- and medium-sized companies, such as broader access to procurements; wider criteria of companies' identification as small- and medium-sized businesses, loans, guarantees, deposit insurance, higher efficiency of control and supervision, tax benefits, liberalized reporting, and leasing preferences.

As of March 10, 2020, Russia's Unified Register of Small- and Medium-sized Companies listed 5.96 mln entities, which employed over 15 mln people. Decree No. 204 sets the goal of increasing the number of small- and medium-sized company employees (including individual entrepreneurs) to 25 mln by 2024. According to the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, small- and medium-sized companies accounted for 20.2% of Russia's GDP and 9.8% of non-resource exports in 2018.

A programme of the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, which provides targeted allocations from the federal budget for regional efforts supporting small- and medium-sized companies, has a keynote place in the small- and medium-sized businesses promotion system.

Regions have been actively developing base infrastructure supporting small- and medium-sized companies since 2014. These include business support centers, guarantee funds, micro-finance institutions, infrastructure providing property support to existent and new entrepreneurs, and centers for innovations and production competences.

Another instrument of support is "SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative" National Project, which includes five Federal Projects: "Acceleration of small- and medium-sized businesses"; "Broader access of small- and medium-sized businesses to financial resources, including financing on preferential terms"; "Better business climate"; "Development of a system supporting farmers and agricultural cooperation"; and "Popularization of entrepreneurship".

The Russian Federation continues to create relevant conditions for the development of small- and medium-sized businesses.

Improve global resource efficiency in consumption and production (Target 8.4)

Russia has addressed resource efficiency in consumption and production in multiple documents, including the State Energy Saving Programme⁶², the Fundamental Areas of the Activity of the Government of the Russian Federation for the period until 2024⁶³, Energy Strategy of Russia 2030⁶⁴, etc.

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 (Target 8.5)

The expansion of able bodied age based on the phased increase of the retirement age will support the labor market in the near future. It will cut the portion of working pensioners past the active working age and will increase the share of population of working age. Changes will be the most pronounced in 2021.

Seeking to observe human rights and freedoms, the notion of pre-retirement age was introduced on the legislative level⁶⁵ (five years before the age, in which a person qualifies for the old-age insurance pension, including early retirement). There are a number of benefits, such as free medications and transportation, discounted rates of capital repairs and other housing and public utility services, exemption from certain taxes, etc.

The Government gives additional guarantees to citizens experiencing problems with the search for a job by means of employment assistance programmes, new jobs and specialized entities (including jobs and entities aimed to employ disabled persons), quotas for employment of disabled persons, special training programmes, and other measures.

The Federal Law "On Social Protection of Disabled Persons in the Russian Federation"⁶⁶ sets a quota for companies with a 100+ staff, which prescribes that 2–4% of all staff members should be disabled persons. At the regional level (consistent with laws of Russian regions) such quota can be no more than 3% of staff members in companies with a staff ranging from 35 to 100 persons.

⁶² The State Programme of the Russian Federation "Energy Saving and Higher Energy Efficiency" (endorsed by Directive No. 2446-r of the Government of the Russian Federation on 27 December 2010)

⁶³ Endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation on 29 September 2018.

⁶⁴ Endorsed by Directive No. 1715-r of the Government of the Russian Federation on 13 November 2009.

⁶⁵ Federal Law No. 350-FZ of 3 October 2018, "Amending Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation Regarding Assignment and Payment of Pensions"

⁶⁶ Federal Law No. 181-FZ of 24 November 1995.

Case Study

Business Advisory Board on Disability

Some companies have been developing corporate programmes to promote employment of disabled persons. For instance, there is the Business Advisory Board on Disability, which throws the light on disability issues, assists in the employment of disabled persons, and facilitates their adjustment to the workplace.

Lukoil PJSC

In 2017, Lukoil PJSC signed [an agreement](#) with the International Labor Organization to ensure, in particular, cooperation in the employment of young people in Russia and other countries. The company is also engaged in financing of the International Labor Organization's project, ["Partnerships for Youth Employment in the CIS"](#), which aims to raise the efficiency of youth employment policy and programmes in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Uzbekistan.

Discriminatory practices in the employment of EAEU citizens in member countries were eradicated in 2015–2019: there is no need for work permits, quotas and other restrictions protecting the national labor market have been lifted, mutual recognition was granted to education documents, emergency medical aid was ensured, and children of working people were given the right to attend kindergardens and schools.

Reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training (Targets 8.6 and 8.b)

In 2015–2018, the proportion of youth aged from 15 to 24 not in employment, education or training reduced in Russia from 12% to 10.2% (the indicator stood at 13.8% in 2010). The youth employment strategy derives from "Fundamentals of the State Youth Policy in the period until 2025" and aims to create conditions for unlocking youth's socioeconomic potential and launch a "social lift" mechanism.

As a donor, Russia makes a substantial input in international efforts towards employment and education of the younger generation, especially in rural areas. The Russia-UNDP Trust Fund for Development has launched the following [projects](#): ["Integrated Area-based Development of Osh Oblast in the Kyrgyz Republic"](#) (2016–2019, budget USD 3.5 mln), ["Promotion of Social and Economic Opportunities for Women and Youth in Zeravshan Valley of Tajikistan"](#) (2017–2019, budget USD 1.5 mln), ["Promotion of Employment and Self-Employment of the Population in Small- and Medium-Sized Towns in the Republic of Belarus"](#) (2017–2020, budget USD 1 mln), ["Digital Skills and Opportunities for Youth Employment towards Digital Economy in the Kyrgyz Republic"](#) (2019–2021, budget USD 1 mln), ["Promoting Youth Employment in Uzbekistan"](#) (2019–2021, budget USD 1 mln), ["Future Skills and Jobs for Armenia's Rural Youth"](#) (2019–2021, budget USD 800,000), and ["Promoting Decent Youth Employment in Cambodia"](#) (2019–2021, budget USD 800,000).

Case Study

Regional youth employment initiatives

Youth employment initiatives that deserve special mentioning include programmes, which promote the development of regional youth employment centers (for instance, [My Career](#) in Moscow) and individual initiatives of regional youth employment services (those of [St. Petersburg](#), [Yekaterinburg](#), [Orenburg](#), etc). Some regions are implementing the programme [Youth Business in Russia](#), which gives consultations and access to initial capital for young people planning to start a business.

Corporate support for youth employment

Corporate support for youth employment is a common practice. For instance, such programmes are underway in RZD ([The Youth of Russian Railways Target Programme \(2016–2020\)](#)), UC RUSAL (internship programme [New Generation](#)), and [Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.](#) (“Scholarship Programme”, “Traineeship Programme”, “Graduate Development Programme”) and others. In addition, Russia has a common practice of youth job fairs.

Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers (Target 8.7)

Russia has ratified a number of international agreements against modern slavery, such as: [The Slavery Convention of September 25, 1926](#); the [Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery of September 7, 1956](#), the [Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor](#) of July 1, 1999, and the [Protocol](#) against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which supplements the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime of November 15, 2000.

According to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, labor is free, there is a ban on forced labor, and everyone is entitled for safe labor conditions and rest. There is a similar provision in the Labor Code of the Russian Federation, which bans forced labor and labor discrimination.

There are also provisions pertaining to child labor: benefits, vacation, and shorter working hours⁶⁷ are guaranteed for underage workers (younger than 18), and children are not allowed to work outside training programmes and without consent of their legal representative⁶⁸.

⁶⁷ Federal Law No. 124-FZ “On Main Guarantees of Child Rights in the Russian Federation” of 24 July 1998.

⁶⁸ Federal Law No. 273-FZ “On Education in the Russian Federation” of 29 December 2012.

Devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products (Target 8.9)

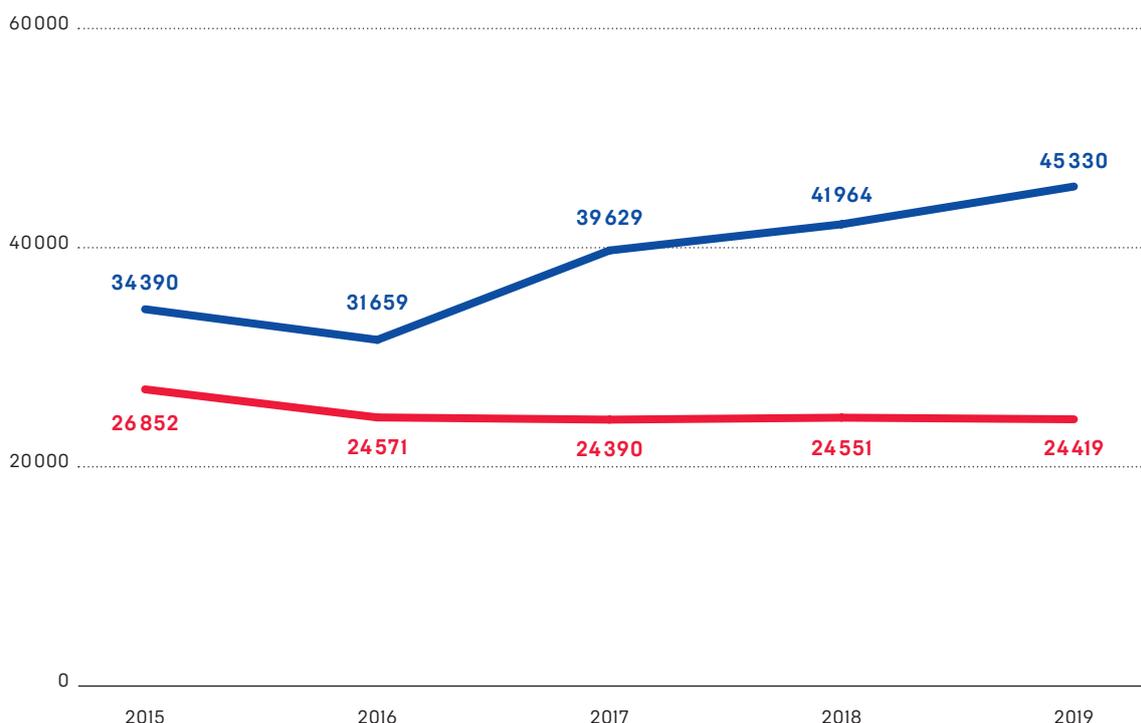
One job in the tourism industry creates up to five jobs in allied sectors. Russia is developing tourism consistent with the concept of the Federal Target Programme "[Development of Domestic and Inbound Tourism in the Russian Federation \(2019–2025\)](#)" approved in 2018. The goal of the programme is to ensure sustainable socioeconomic development of regions, with due account of lifting of infrastructural restrictions and the fullest use of the tourism potential of Russian territories. [Tourism Development Strategy 2035](#) was approved in September 2019 to boost domestic and inbound tourism through the creation and development of tourist destinations, special preferential regimes, comprehensive projects building tourist and allied infrastructure, etc.

One of the areas of the tourism industry's development is eco-tourism, an important factor of competitiveness of Russian tourist products. Russia is developing practically every form of eco-tourism, including popular one-day eco-tours and visits to national parks. Key indicators of the Russian tourism industry's development are presented below (Figure 13).

FIGURE 13. TOURIST FLOWS IN RUSSIA

thousand arrivals

- Russian tourist arrivals in foreign countries
- Foreign tourist arrivals in Russia



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

The Central Bank of the Russian Federation has been annually evaluating access to finance since 2015, and has been publishing yearly reviews of financial accessibility in the Russian Federation since 2016. Much headway has been made over recent years in certain financial accessibility indicators:

- The number of financial institutions which open bank accounts without a client's personal visit to a bank office grew from 60 to 105 in 2016–2018;
- The proportion of adults using remote access to bank accounts grew (according to polls) from 31.5% to 55.2% in 2016–2018;
- The proportion of the population capable of making a money transfer via a cell phone or via satellite within 15 minutes increased from 35.9% to 54.7% in 2017–2018.

In 2016, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation set the tasks of raising access to finance for the population and small- and medium-sized businesses as a priority of "[Main Directions of the Financial Market Development in the Russian Federation in 2016–2018](#)" and "[Main Directions of the Financial Market Development in the Russian Federation in 2019–2021](#)". Major results of the implementation of documents regarding the development areas in 2016–2018 are: the elaboration of unified standards for loans to small- and medium-sized businesses, elaboration of recommendations for services offered to disabled persons by credit and non-credit financial institutions.

Strategy of Raising Financial Accessibility in the Russian Federation in 2018–2020 was prepared with the assistance of the World Bank and involved public hearings of the authorities, civic organizations, and other interested parties. The Strategy set two primary goals:

- Higher level of accessibility and quality of financial services offered to consumers in remote, scarcely populated and difficult-to-access territories, to small- and medium-sized businesses, and groups of population with limited access to financial services;
- Faster and better access to finance for Internet users.

In the beginning of 2019, the Central Bank of the Russian Federation launched the [Faster Payments System](#), which is bound to bolster competition on the market of instant payments by means of equal access of banks to the payment infrastructure and to broaden public access to money transfers as a result.

The Central Bank of the Russian Federation also developed a remote identification mechanism, which digitalizes financial services and increases financial accessibility for customers, including disabled persons, senior citizens, and people with limited mobility.

The remote identification mechanism was supported by new regulatory acts and technological infrastructure, including the Unified Biometric System, which, together with the [Unified System of Identification and Authentication \(USIA\)](#), will ensure reliable identification of users. The procedure is free and voluntary for users and is carried out exclusively with the client's consent.

Looking forward

One can say in general that Russia has made much progress in the area of economic growth and employment of various population groups. The effort towards inclusive sustainable growth is ongoing and there are a number of outstanding tasks (including accelerated growth of labor productivity). Engagement of small- and medium-sized businesses in the economy is a separate issue.

National projects and other socioeconomic policy measures put emphasis on a broad range of tasks: tax benefits for small- and medium-sized business, regional economic integration in the EAEU, and implementation of “SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative” National Project (financial support to enterprises, reduction of administrative and legal barriers to the growth of labor productivity, development of the managerial personnel training system, etc.).

SDG 9

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



Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure (Target 9.1)

Russia's cargo turnover for all modes of transportation grew by 10.3% in 2015–2018: from 5 108 bln ton-kilometers to 5 635 bln ton-kilometers. Passenger turnover of all public transport also increased by 12.1%, from 529.7 bln passenger-kilometers to 593.6 bln passenger-kilometers.

Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025 which was adopted in 2019 is aimed at increasing the connectivity of the territory of Russia, improving the accessibility and quality of the main transport, energy, information and telecommunications infrastructure and at reducing the lag in some regions in terms of socio-economic development.

The development of transport infrastructure is carried out in accordance with Transport Strategy of the Russian Federation 2030 adopted in 2008, the main goal of which is to turn Russia's geographical location and spatial features into its competitive advantage.

In addition, a 2024-Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of Main Infrastructure was adopted in 2018. It is aimed at provision of quality growth of the transport infrastructure, increase of shipment of transit container flow speed in all directions as well as at increase of the regions transport coverage level.

"Safe and Quality Roads" National Project was adopted in 2018. In particular, the document envisages the creation of a regulatory framework and a basis for the introduction of self-driving vehicles on the roads and the use of intelligent systems by 2024.

The most important strategic direction in the development of the country's transport system in accordance with Transport Strategy of the Russian Federation 2030 is a balanced advanced development of transport infrastructure. Implementation thereof means an agreed and comprehensive development of all elements of the transport infrastructure.

Presently, in accordance with the Decree No. 204, one of the priority directions of the country's transport industry development is the development of the trunk infrastructure, specifically through "increase of the capacity of the Baikal-Amur and Trans-Siberian Railways up to 180 mln tons i.e. by one and a half times", as well as "reduction of the time of container transportation by rail and four times increase of the volume of containers transit transportation by rail".

Special attention shall be paid to the development of transit container transportation by rail. In this direction, the key strategic project for infrastructure development is the Northern Sea Route (NSR), primarily, the development of the relevant port infrastructure.

It is planned to increase the transshipment capacity of ports and to develop railway and automobile approaches in order to develop the transport infrastructure of Russia's southern regions in the Azov and the Black Sea basins.

Russia plans to implement projects for the development of high-speed railway lines (HSRL). The flagship projects are the Moscow – Saint Petersburg HSRL and the Moscow-Kazan HSRL, each about 700 km long.

Case Study

Private sector contribution to the development of the transport infrastructure

Project “Meridian”

An example of a large-scale and fully private infrastructure project is the construction of a highway under the framework of China – Western Europe route. The project is called “Meridian”: a highway which is 2 000 km long will cross the territory of Russia from the border with Kazakhstan to the border with Belarus fulfilling transit potential of the country for connecting major economic regions of Eurasia. The cost of the project is about 600 bln rubles. The construction began in 2018.

One of the main mechanisms for implementing infrastructure projects involving private partners is concession agreements. As of March 17, 2020, 284 concession agreements with a total volume of investment commitments of 1.98 trln rubles⁶⁹ had been concluded in Russia. The ongoing projects include 143 private ones with commitment amounting to 837.1 bln rubles⁷⁰.

Initiatives are being implemented in the [following areas](#) within the framework of EAEU with the active participation of Russia: construction and development of Eurasian transport corridors⁷¹, coordination of transport infrastructure development, establishment of logistics centers and transport organizations. The formation of [digital ecosystem of Eurasian transport corridors](#) is also of great importance.

Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization (Target 9.2)

Industry has traditionally made a significant [contribution to Russia’s GDP](#) (about 25–30% of GDP), the bulk of which (about 40–50% of the total contribution) belongs to manufacturing industries. [The share of manufacturing industry in GDP of Russia](#) grew up to 14.4% in 2018 in comparison to 13.8% in 2015.

According to the Federal Law “On Industrial Policy”, the measures for promotion of industrialization include, inter alia, financial, information and consulting support to enterprises, promotion of innovation activities in the industry, development of non-resource exports of industrial goods, and support for the growth of human resources potential.

⁶⁹ Data on concessions with the volume of investment commitment exceeding 100 mln rubles.

⁷⁰ Data from the National Association of Concessionaires and Long-Term Infrastructure Investors.

⁷¹ Main transport corridors include “Europe – Western China”, “Northern Sea Route”, “Trans-Siberian Railway” routes, “North – South” corridor and pan-European transport corridors I and IX.

One of the main forms of spatial development of industry is industrial parks⁷². As of March 2020, there were [204 industrial parks](#) in Russia (153 industrial parks and 51 tech parks). 76 industrial parks were being built (62 industrial parks and 14 tech parks).

Another tool for spatial development of industry is industrial clusters⁷³. As of March 2020, there were [75 clusters](#) in 41 region of Russia.

An important area of governmental support for the industry is the development of the industrial potential of regions, including projects to increase the investment appeal of single-industry cities (settlements with a town-forming enterprise and not adapted to serve a diversified economy). Single-industry Cities Development Fund, a non-profit organization, has been operating as a project office for the development of single-industry towns since 2014.

By the end of 2019, the Fund made [76 cooperation agreements](#) with 48 regions on development of 100 single-industry towns. Such [measures](#) as attracting investments through infrastructure and investment projects and creating new jobs unrelated to the activities of local economic mainstays are implemented within the framework of the agreements (for more information, see the section on SDG 11).

Special Investment Contracts (SPICs) are another important tool for attracting investments in industrial production development. Within the period provided by SPICs, investors undertake to create, modernize and/or master industrial production on their own or with the involvement of other individuals / entities, and the state undertakes to implement incentives in its turn.

A tool of industry development support, which contributes to the increase in lending to organizations implementing investment projects, is [“Project Finance Factory”](#), which was launched in 2018 by VEB.RF to support priority economy sectors.

In 2014, the Industrial Development Fund (IDF) was established in order to modernize the Russian industry and organize new production facilities. [IDF](#) participates in co-financing of projects aimed at developing new high-tech products, leasing production equipment, implementing machine-tool projects, and digitalizing existing production facilities on preferential terms. In order to implement new industrial projects, the Fund provides preferential targeted loans, stimulating the inflow of direct investments into the real sector of the economy.

The state policy for support of non-resource non-oil exports is also noteworthy. Under “International Cooperation and Export” National Project which was launched in 2018, VEB.RF and Russian Export Center JSC provide support to Russian exporters in form of [loan and interbank financing of export projects](#), analytical, [expert and consulting support](#), promotion services, insurance, etc. In 2019, Russian Export Center JSC [supported](#) more than 11 thousand Russian companies that exported goods and services for the amount approximating USD 19.5 bln.

⁷² This is a complex of real estate objects managed by a specialized management company which consists of a land plot (plots) with industrial, administrative, warehouse and other buildings, structures and constructions; has engineering and transport infrastructure necessary for the creation of new industrial production and the necessary legal regime for production activities.

⁷³ An aggregate of industrial entities (legal entities or self-employed entrepreneurs) connected by relations in the said area due to territorial proximity and functional dependence, manufacturing industrial products and located in one or more Russian regions.

Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises to financial services (Target 9.3)

Russia is characterized by a relatively low contribution of SMEs to the country's economic development. The priority target of government policy is to increase the availability of financial resources for small-sized businesses. See the section on SDG 8 for information on SMEs development.

During the four years of its operation SME Corporation JSC [supported](#) more than 21,400 SMEs for the amount of about 286 bln rubles. A number of pilot regions⁷⁴ introduced a special tax scheme for independently employed individuals in 2019.

Case Study

Severstal PJSC

In 1999, Severstal PJSC together with Cherepovets City Administration established [“Agency for Urban Development” Non-Commercial Partnership](#), whose goal is to support SMEs in the region. The Agency participates in the implementation of regional and federal programmes to support SMEs at the municipal level. These measures also contribute to the development of Cherepovets, which has the status of a single-industry city.

Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors, support domestic technology development, research and innovation (Targets 9.5, 9.b)

In 2019, Russia was ranked 46th in the [Global Innovation Index](#), two positions higher than in 2015 (48th place). The [research and development expenditure as a proportion of the Russia's GDP](#) decreased from 1.1% in 2015 to 1.0% in 2018. The [number of researchers per 1 mln inhabitants](#) decreased from 3,065 to 2,764 people during the same period.

To reverse these negative trends, “Science” National Project was developed in 2018. It is being implemented between 2018 and 2024. The targets of the project are, in particular, to increase the number of Russian and foreign scientists that work in Russian organizations and publish articles in scientific publications of the first and second quartiles indexed in international

⁷⁴ Moscow, Moscow and Kaluga regions, and Republic of Tatarstan. Plus 19 regions, including St. Petersburg and the Novosibirsk Region, added on 1 January 2020.

databases, to increase the share of researchers under 39 in the total number of Russian researchers and to ensure that the growth rate of domestic R&D spending from all sources exceeds the GDP growth rate.

In March 2019, the programme “Scientific and Technological Development of the Russian Federation” which is aimed at developing the nation’s intellectual potential, identifying and developing talents, creating conditions for the professional development of scientific and engineering staff, supporting research and development, and developing scientific infrastructure was approved.

One of the projects implemented by the Government of the Russian Federation in the innovation sphere is the National Technological Initiative (NTI). The National Technology Initiative is aimed at reconfiguring all technology and science policies in the country. In the context of the 4th industrial revolution, the implementation of the National Technological Initiative envisages support for enterprises operating in the most promising, fast-growing technological markets: creation of self-driving vehicles (automobile, sea, air), small spacecraft, neurotechnologies, technologies of smart distributed energy, new production and modern medical technologies and more.

Case Study

Skolkovo Innovation center

The project was launched in 2010. The Center is a science city with complex infrastructure for science and innovation development. Main directions of development: IT, biomedical technologies, energy, space technologies, nuclear technologies. Residents are provided with tax incentives.

RUSNANO Group

[RUSNANO Group](#) implements the state policy on nano-industry development, acting as a co-investor in nanotechnology projects with significant economic or social potential. The goal is to secure Russia’s leading position in the world markets for nanotechnology products.

Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support (Target 9.a)

Russia takes active part in infrastructure development projects in developing countries at both the state and corporate levels, including via its membership in international development institutions (EBRD, NDB, AIIB) and international organizations (APEC, BRICS, WTO, SCO, UN system organizations, OECD, UNCTAD, ASEAN, UNESCO, Council of Europe, etc.). Russia is one of the major donors that provide technical assistance via UN special agencies. Cooperation with the

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has been particularly fruitful.

Russia is restoring energy infrastructure in Syria. Among its plans are participation in the construction of a transcontinental railway in Africa and the creation of an industrial area in Egypt. Russian companies are building transport and energy infrastructure in developing countries.

Significantly increase access to information and communications technology (Target 9.c)

The [number of active mobile subscribers](#) in Russia increased from 227.3 mln in 2015 to 229.4 mln in 2018, or by 0.9%. The [number of active mobile subscribers per 100 citizens](#) in Russia increased from 156.8 in 2015 to 157.4 units in 2018, or by 0.4%. [Proportion of the Russian population covered by 4G mobile network](#) increased from 50% to 70% in 2015–2018.

In order to support the development of information and communication technologies in Russia, Strategy for the Development of an Information Society in the Russian Federation 2030 (approved in 2017) and Development Strategy for the Information Technology Industry in the Russian Federation for 2014–2020 and up to 2025 (approved in 2013) are being implemented. Among other things, these documents are aimed at creating conditions for formation of a society of knowledge in Russia, development of human potential, development of information and communication infrastructure, integration of the national industry into the global IT-industry.

The process of active connection of small settlements with a population of 250 to 500 people to the Internet has been underway since 2014. As a result, some 5 mln citizens living in about 14,000 small settlements of this kind will have access to the Internet by 2021.

Digital public services provision is being actively developed. The official web-portal of state services [“Gosuslugi”](#) (State Services) has been functioning since 2009. In late 2019, [the number of the web-portal users](#) increased to 103 mln. There are also projects being implemented in the sphere of e-government services, development of [“smart city” technologies](#) in Russian metropolitan cities.

“Digital Economy” National Project has been implemented since 2019. It is designed to promote the creation of a sustainable and secure infrastructure, including the introduction of 5G communication standards, increase the number of domestic ICT developments and expansion of their application.

Also, in 2019, the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 490 dated October 10, 2019 approved National Strategy for the Development of Artificial Intelligence 2030 (AI). In the context of the technological revolution, AI can have a significant impact on further economic development, social relations and security. The Russian Federation takes an active part in the work of the Council of Europe Ad Hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence on the formation of pan-european legal regulations to govern the development and use of AI; in the work of The United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development, within the framework of which the Russian Federation takes the initiative of creating a separate working group on AI, which it is ready to chair; in the work of the Committee on AI of the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, which develops recommendations in the field of ethics of the use of AI technologies and the first universal regulations in this high-tech field.

In 2019, the Bank of Russia launched the Faster Payments System (FPS) in order to increase the availability of financial services for the population through the development of information technologies. This service allows making instant payments via mobile phone to any bank that is a FPS member (more than 50 banks already), as well as making payments for goods and services in retail stores and in the Internet via QR code.

Within the framework of [“Smart City” project](#), Russian cities implement projects to develop a smart urban environment, including digital platforms for the involvement of citizens in urban development issues (“Active Citizen”), digital platforms for urban management (“Digital Twin”), smart urban management centers (supervisory control in the sphere of housing and utilities and energy, rapid response and situational analysis systems), intelligent urban transport management systems, intelligent systems for public and environmental safety.

Case Study

Mobile operators MTS PJSC, Vimpel-Communications PJSC, MegaFon PJSC, Rostelecom PJSC

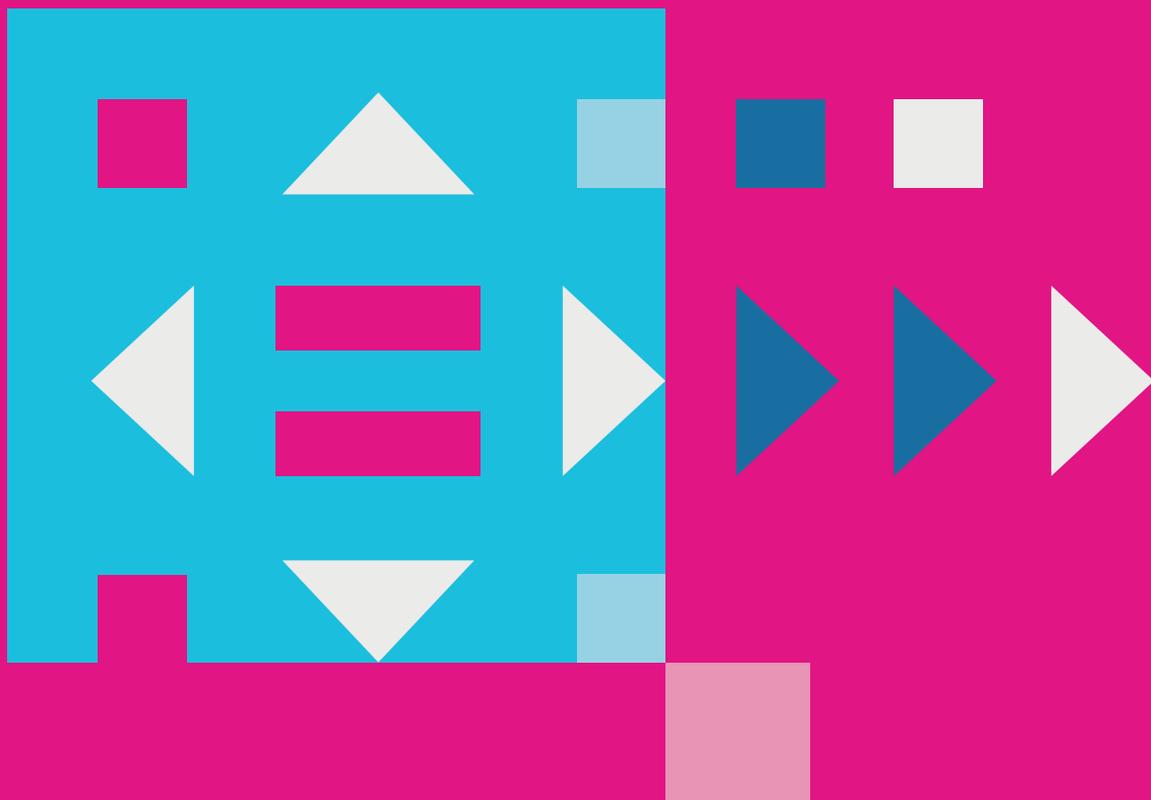
Implementation of projects aimed at reduction of the digital gap, provision of digital services to hard-to-reach areas via construction of new fiber-optic networks and the development of satellite communication channels. The [companies](#) also test 5G networks.

Looking forward

At present, strategies for transport development, information society, state industrial policy are being implemented, and large-scale National Projects for the development of main infrastructure and digital economy are underway. Major Russian companies are actively implementing projects for construction and modernization of transport and telecommunications infrastructure, introducing modern eco-friendly and resource-saving technologies. This helps to address the issue of ensuring the process of modernization and advanced development of modern publicly available infrastructure, primarily transport, industrial, energy and communications.

Governmental measures of support are being implemented within the framework of “SMEs and Support for Individual Entrepreneurial Initiative” National Project and persistent efforts of SME Corporation JSC, a specialized development organization. Large Russian companies contribute by creating projects and establishing foundations for support of small-sized businesses in the regions and cities where they operate. This makes it possible to solve the task of increasing the contribution of SMEs to the development of the Russian economy, primarily by facilitating access of small-sized businesses to financial resources.

SDG 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries

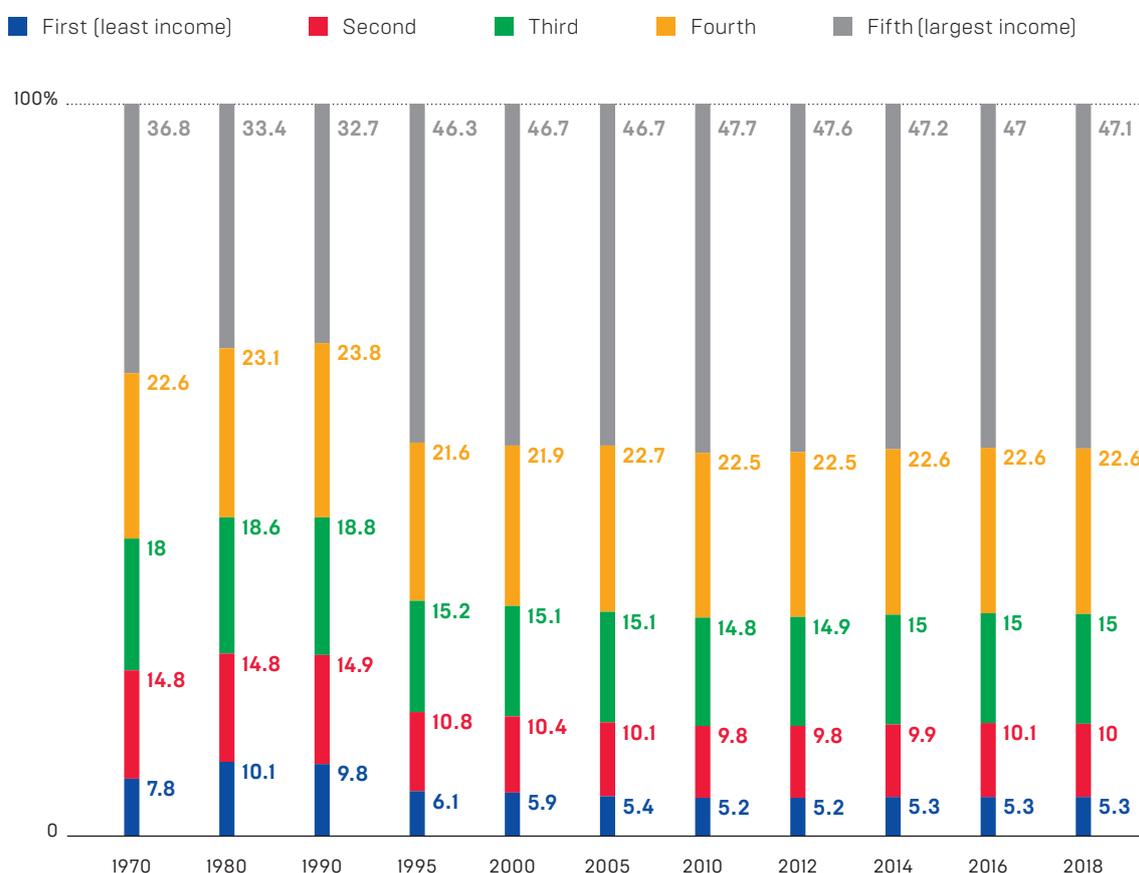


Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population (Targets 10.1, 10.3, 10.4)

In 2018, the Gini Index was 0.413 [0.412 in 2015] (see the Statistical Annex for more details), the foundations index in 2019 was 15.4 times (15.5 times in 2015). At the same time, the distribution of income of the population by 20% groups [quintiles] remained practically unchanged (Figure 14).

FIGURE 14. DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CASH INCOME OF THE POPULATION BY 20% GROUPS (QUINTILES)⁷⁵

Rosstat / %



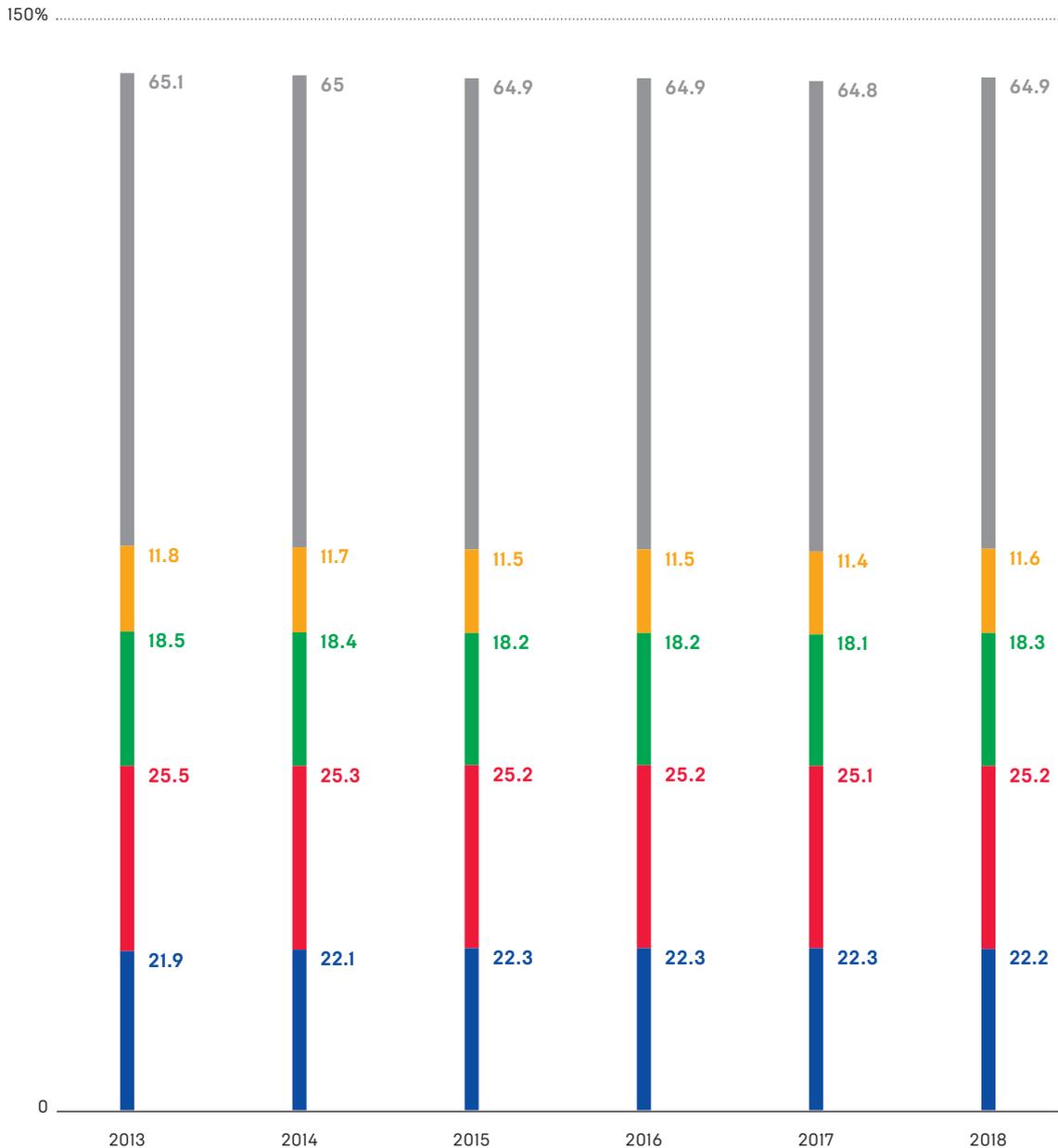
⁷⁵ Figures for the Russian Federation for 2013–2018 were calculated using the value of the national measure of the average per capita cash income of the population, determined in accordance with the Methodological Provisions for Calculation of Figures of Cash Income and Expenditures of the Population (Order of Rosstat of 2 July 2014 No. 465 as amended on 20 November 2018). Prior to 2013 – in accordance with the Methodology for Calculating the Balance of Monetary Income and Expenditures of the Population (Order of the Goskomstat of Russia No. 61 of 16 July 1996). The data for 2017–2018 are adjusted basing on the results of annual calculations of figures of monetary incomes and expenditures of the population.

The share of the population with an average per capita cash income below average remained stable in the Russian Federation in 2015–2018. However, the share of the population with incomes below the minimum subsistence rate declined slightly in 2017–2018, as shown in the section on SDG 1 (Figure 15).

FIGURE 15. SHARE OF POPULATION WITH AVERAGE CASH INCOME PER CAPITA BELOW THE MARGINS ESTABLISHED ON THE BASIS OF ACTUAL LEVEL OF CASH INCOME OF POPULATION (AVERAGE PER CAPITA, MEDIAN (ME) AND MODAL) IN RUSSIA AS A WHOLE

Rosstat / as a % of total population

- Below modal per capita income
- 60% from Me
- 50% from Me
- 40% from Me
- Below average per capita income



In accordance with the Decree No. 204, one of the national development targets of Russia is to ensure sustainable growth of real incomes of citizens, as well as growth of the pension provision rate above inflation. The Unified Plan for the Achievement of National Development Targets for the period up to 2024⁷⁶ envisages, inter alia, measures to ensure steady growth in real incomes:

- annual minimum wage at the federal level is the amount of the minimum subsistence level of the employable population for the II quarter of the previous year;
- maintaining the achieved rates of wages of specific categories of employees⁷⁷, as well as conducting annual indexation of wages of other categories of employees in public sector organizations;
- ensuring that the rate of pension coverage grows above inflation.

Social supplements to pensions have been provided since 1 January 2010. Senior citizens from among the federal beneficiaries receive a monthly cash payment and state social support in the form of a package of social services⁷⁸.

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 (Target 10.2)

See section on SDG 8 for information on the extension of the working age limit due to a gradual increase in the retirement age, as well as on the implementation of mechanisms to support persons with disabilities in terms of employment.

With regard to the promotion of employment of senior citizens in Russia, as part of “Development and implementation of a programme of systemic support and improvement of the quality of life of older citizens” Federal Project of “Demography” National Project there are measures being taken to organize vocational training and additional vocational training for men and women of pre-retirement age (5 years before the age for qualifying for an old-age insurance pension) for skills and competences sought-after in the economy.

The Federal Law “On social support for persons with disabilities in the Russian Federation” has been in force since 1999. It sets the main directions of the state policy on the social protection of people with disabilities in the country.

⁷⁶ Adopted by the Government of the Russian Federation of 7 May 2019.

⁷⁷ Specific categories of employees are defined by Presidential Decrees No. 597 of 7 May 2012 “On Measures for Implementation of State Social Policy”, No. 761 of 1 June 2012 “On National Strategy for Action in the Benefit of Children 2012–2017” and No. 1688 of 28 December 2012 “On Specific Measures for Implementation of State Policy for the Protection of Orphans and Children without Parental Care”.

⁷⁸ According to the federal laws No. 122-FZ of 22 August 2004 and No. 178-FZ of 17 July 1999.

Case Study

Cases of participation of Russia's cities and regions in achieving the target

Komsomolsk-on-Amur

Urban project "Theater as means of social adaptation and rehabilitation". The target is social adaptation and rehabilitation of people with disabilities and those in hardship.

"Ya Grazhdanin" (I'm a citizen). This social project is aimed at helping restore documents and have medical check-ups for people in hardship.

Moscow

Moscow Mayor's "Moskovskoye Dolgoletie" (Moscow Longevity) project is designed for Moscow citizens of the older generation, thus helping them to keep active and freely take advantage of the city's opportunities for self-realization. The project offers free classes in sports sections, creative studios, educational courses for citizens over 55 years old.

The "Dobry Avtobus" (Bus of Kindness) social project is a project implemented with the support of the Moscow City Government. Its goal is to [support](#) senior citizens, to increase their mobility and social activity, and to include them in the cultural life of the capital.

Besides, as part of the implementation of Strategy for Actions to the Benefit of the Senior Citizens in the Russian Federation 2025, a programme called "Silver Volunteering" is being implemented in the Russian Federation. This is a senior volunteers' movement aimed at supporting and encouraging the participation of senior citizens in social life, including in volunteer activities that promote healthy lifestyles and help to recover from loneliness, depression, etc. The All-Russian project "Molodi Dushoi" (Young at Hearts) initiated by the Association of Volunteer Centers, is being implemented in many regions of Russia through the establishment of regional "silver" volunteer centers.

Since 2011, the Russian Federation has been implementing the State Programme "Accessible Environment". Within its framework there are measures to provide legal and regulatory support for barrier-free access for people with disabilities and people with limited mobility to priority facilities and services, as well as to housing and places of festive events in order to involve them in the cultural scene of the country.

Case Study

Cases of participation of Russian private sector and development institutions in achieving the target

Siberian Coal Energy Company (SUEK JSC)

“School of Social Entrepreneurship” programme, which is aimed at increasing social and entrepreneurial activity, has been implemented since 2012. Aspiring entrepreneurs, whose projects have been selected on a competitive basis, participate in training workshops, receive expert support for the implementation of their projects, learn to present the progress and results of their work in public. In 2014–2016, the graduates of the School established almost 100 new companies in their regions.

Russian affiliated companies of “Philip Morris International”

“Status: Online” Programme. Aimed at improvement of e-literacy among senior citizens and adults with disabilities. It has been held since 2013 by the Foundation for the Support and Development of Philanthropy “CAF” jointly and with the support of Philip Morris Sales and Marketing LLC. “Status: Online” runs in 17 regions of Russia, covering more than 45,000 people.

Vnesheconombank (VEB.RF)

In October 2016, VEB.RF together with “Starost v Radost” Foundation launched a volunteer project “Dreams Have No Age”. The project aims to provide comprehensive support to elderly people living in nursing homes. As part of the project, volunteers from Vnesheconombank and VEB.RF organizations regularly help residents of three sponsored nursing homes. These are a residential care home in Dubna (the Tula region, 311 residents), a residential care home in Vyshniy Volochek (the Tver region, 514 residents) and a nursing care unit in Ostashovo village (the Moscow region, 32 residents).

Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions (Target 10.5)

The Bank of Russia is engaged in extensive cooperation through CIS, BRICS, also teaming up with IMF, World Bank and Financial Stability Board. As part of its cooperation with the G20, the Bank of Russia participated in development of international approaches to limiting risks associated with cross-border capital flows, parallel banking systems and financial technologies. The work on updating national economic growth strategies, reforming of financial regulation and the international financial architecture continued in 2018.

The Bank of Russia participates in a number of committees of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)⁷⁹. Besides, the Bank of Russia has joined the consulting networks on initial coin offering (ICO) and financial technologies (FinTech) and continues to work on fuller implementation of IOSCO's Securities Market Regulation Goals and Principles⁸⁰. In 2018, the Bank of Russia ran the International Investor Week, an information campaign initiated by IOSCO, which is aimed at educating and protecting investors' rights.

Implement planned and well-managed migration policies in Russia (Target 10.7)

In October 2018, the updated Concept of State Migration Policy of the Russian Federation for 2019–2025 was approved⁸¹. According to the concept, the main directions of migration policy are, among other things, to ensure simplicity and transparency of procedures for entering Russia and of obtaining the right to stay in the country, for employment purposes as well, to increase access to educational services for foreign citizens, etc.

The average annual number of foreign labor migrants in Russia is [about 3 mln people](#) (3% of the average annual number of all labor resources). There are about 10 mln foreign citizens in the Russian Federation annually. More than 1 mln foreign citizens permanently or temporarily live in Russia. The overwhelming majority of migrants come from neighboring countries, i.e. the former Soviet republics, which have close economic and political ties with Russia.

At the EAEU level, migration regulation includes the simplification of mutual trips of migrants between member states. In particular, workers from other member states are not subject to restrictions that aim to protect the national labor market, quotas and work permits do not apply to them, and direct recognition of educational documents for employment is in force.

See the figure below for the dynamics of the mutual migration of the Russian Federation and the EAEU member states (Figure 16).

The results of external migration have been positively [influenced](#) by the state programme of support for resettlement in the Russian Federation of compatriots living abroad. At the same time, internal migration remains the main form of migration in Russia as per its scale. Since 2005, the volume and intensity of internal migration have had a clear trend to increase (Figures 17.1, 17.2).

In recent years, the share of migration between regions of the country has increased and the share of intra-regional migration has decreased (Figure 18).

⁷⁹ European Regional Committee (ERC), Growth and Emerging Markets Committee (GEMC), Presidents Committee, Assessment Committee, IOSCO MMoU Monitoring Group, seven out of eight Policy Development Committees (IOSCO Policy Committees).

⁸⁰ IOSCO Objectives and Principles of Securities Regulation, IOSCO OPSR.

⁸¹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 622 of 31 October 2018.

FIGURE 16. DYNAMICS OF MUTUAL MIGRATION BETWEEN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND EAEU MEMBER STATES, PEOPLE

Rosstat / thousand people

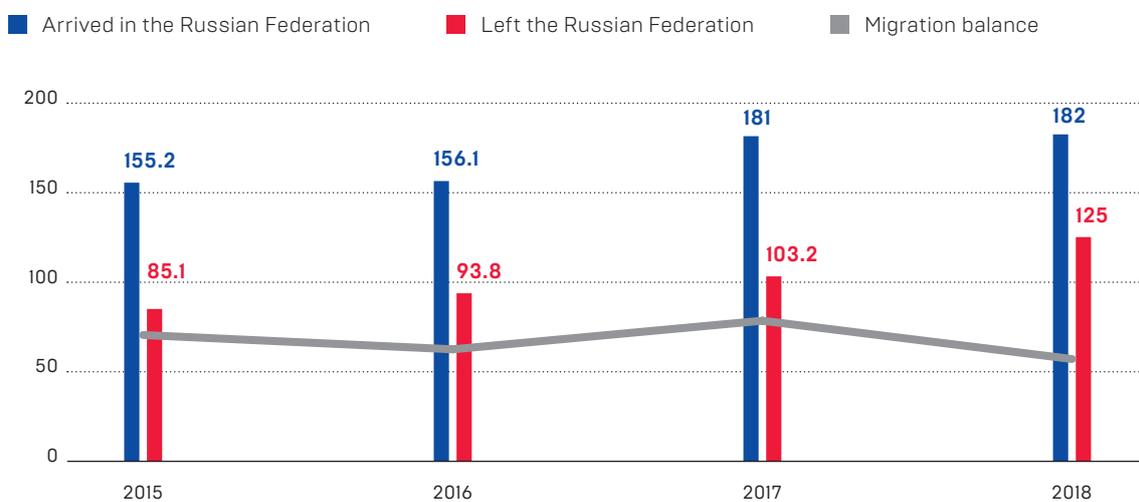


FIGURE 17.1. DYNAMICS OF ARRIVAL OF PEOPLE AS PER MIGRATION DIRECTIONS

Rosstat / thousand people

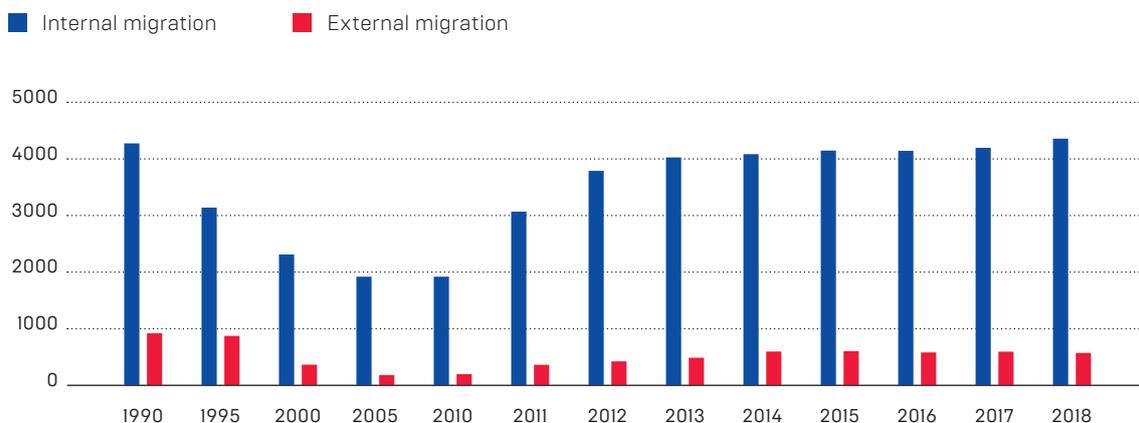


FIGURE 17.2. DYNAMICS OF DEPARTURE OF PEOPLE AS PER MIGRATION DIRECTIONS

Rosstat / thousand people

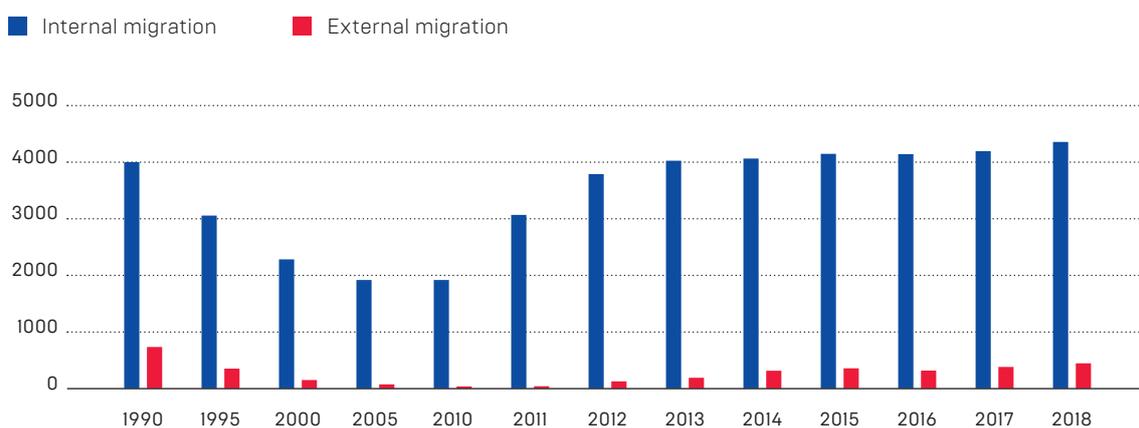
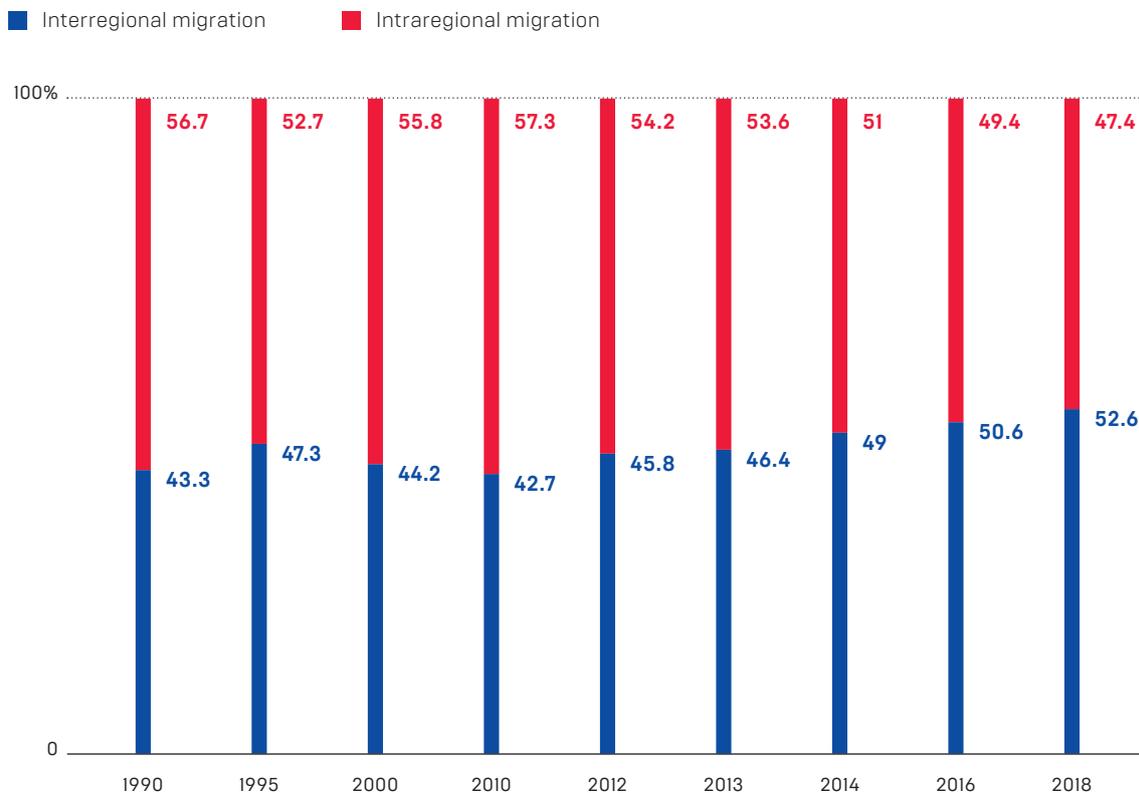


FIGURE 18. DYNAMICS OF INTERNAL MIGRATION STRUCTURE IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Rosstat / %



Russia pays specific attention to the problem of combating illegal international migration, which is largely related to transport flows. According to National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation, vehicles and transport infrastructure are regularly monitored.

Encourage official development assistance (Targets 10.a, 10.b)

According to the Concept of State Policy of the Russian Federation in the Area of International Development Assistance approved in 2014, the priority directions of support in the sphere of international development are CIS member states, EAEU members, and Russia's partner states within the framework of international associations for implementing economic and social projects.

The bulk of aid is directed to developing countries to support health, education and food security. Through UN organizations Russia finances projects for development of lagging regions and territories of specific countries, stimulating the improvement of the quality of life of local people, including by way of creation of new jobs.

In addition, in accordance with Resolution of the Customs Union Commission No. 130 dated November 27, 2009, 103 developing and 50 least developed countries are users of the unified

system of tariff preferences of the EAEU. According to the Treaty on the Eurasian Economic Union, the developing countries pay import duties in the amount of 75% of UCT EAEU import duty rates when importing goods from the list of preferential goods approved by the EEC Council, and zero import duty rates are applied for these goods for LDCs.

Reduce the transaction costs of migrant remittances (Target 10.c)

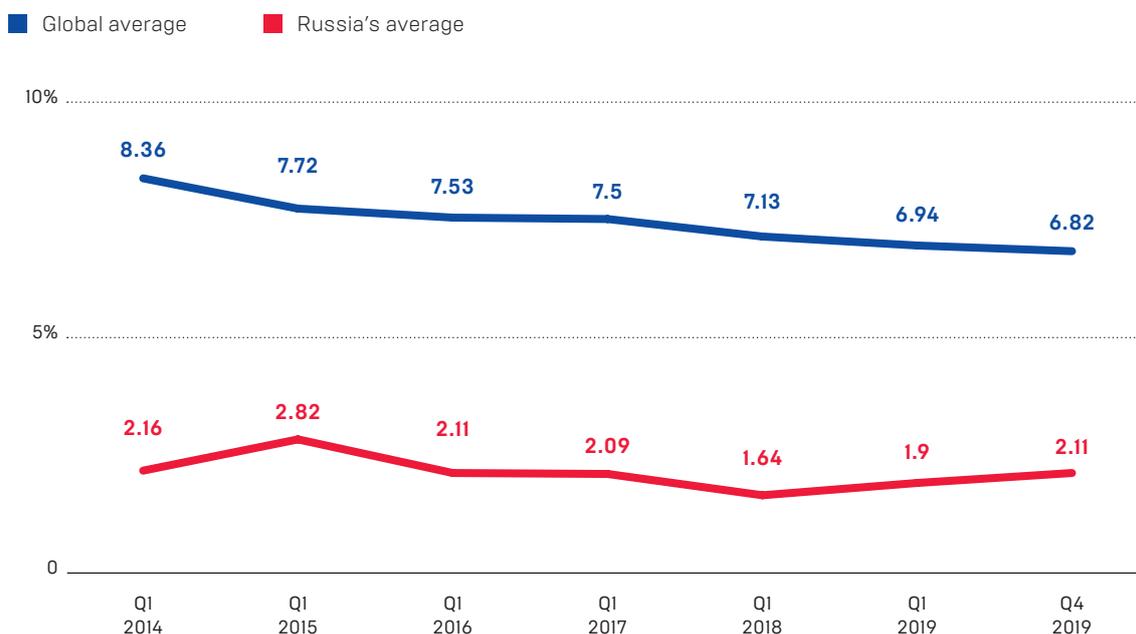
In 2018, non-residents made money transfers amounting to USD 10.8 bln from Russia abroad. This is 14% below 2017 and 2.55% above 2015 rates. However, it should be noted that the volume of money transfers abroad from non-residents was significantly higher until 2015: about USD 20.3 bln in 2013 and USD 19.2 bln in 2014. Such decrease in money transfers may be partially brought about by the depreciation of ruble against foreign currencies at the end of 2014 and, as a result, by reduction in the flow of foreign migrants arriving in Russia.

Traditionally, about 70% of transfers in 2018 were to the CIS countries. The main directions of money transfers as per their volume were Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The Russian Federation is the country with the lowest level of transaction costs for money transfers abroad among the members of the G20. This level is also well below the global average. Thus, for example, if in the IV quarter of 2019 the average money transfer cost was 6.82% of the transfer amount worldwide, Russia accounted for 2.11% in the same period (Figure 19).

FIGURE 19. AVERAGE TRANSACTION COSTS FOR MONEY TRANSFERS ABROAD IN RUSSIA AND WORLDWIDE

World Bank / %



However, in Russia the cost of transferring money often exceeds 10% of the amount transferred. As a result, at the beginning of 2019, the Bank of Russia launched the FPS. The FPS was partially covered in the section on SDG 8.

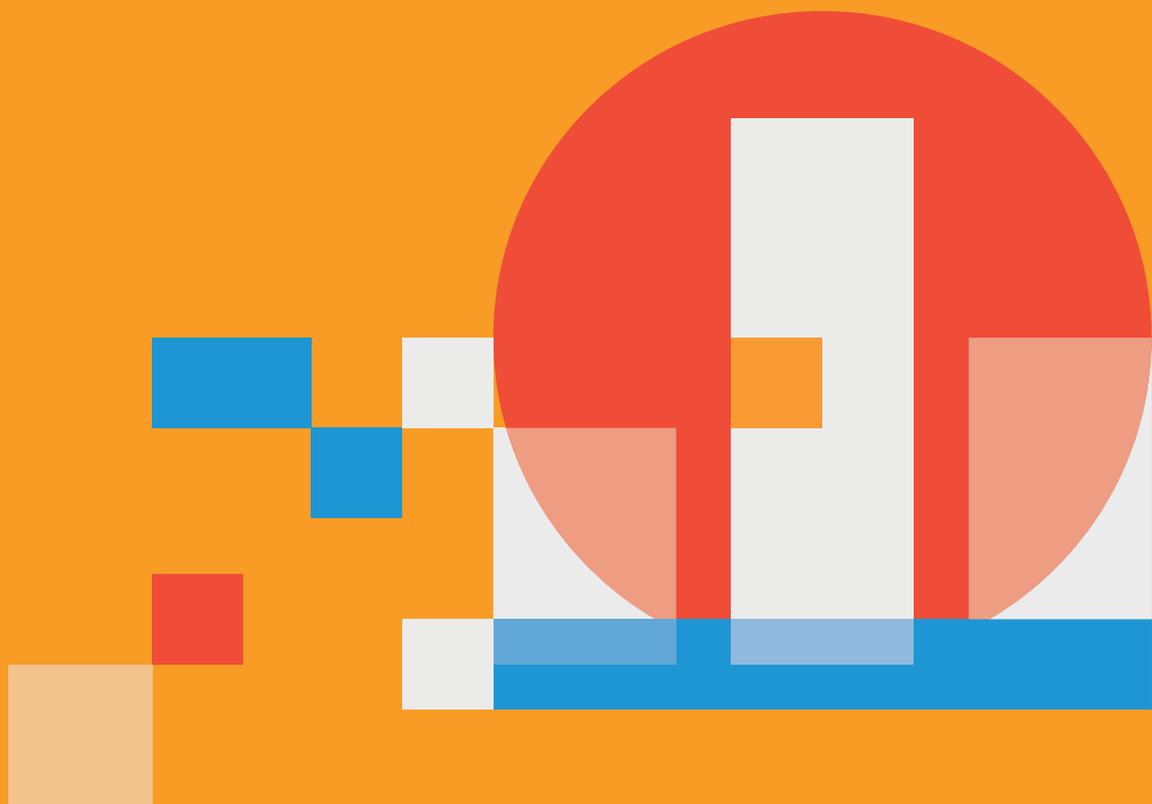
The FPS was put into operation on January 28, 2019. In 2019, a zero tariff was set for the banks-participants of the system; the zero tariff for transfers between individuals is valid from 01.04.2020 to 01.07.2020. The FPS transfers for payment for goods and services were launched in Q3 2019.

Looking forward

The elimination of gaps in the distribution of income among the Russian population in regional terms remains one of Russia's key tasks in the area of social and economic equality. Differences in household income between regions can reach up to 33.3 times. Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025, approved in February 2019, is designated to solve this issue. According to the Strategy, the goal of the spatial development of the Russian Federation is to ensure sustainable and balanced spatial development of the Russian Federation, aimed at reducing interregional differences in living standards and quality of life.

SDG 11

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



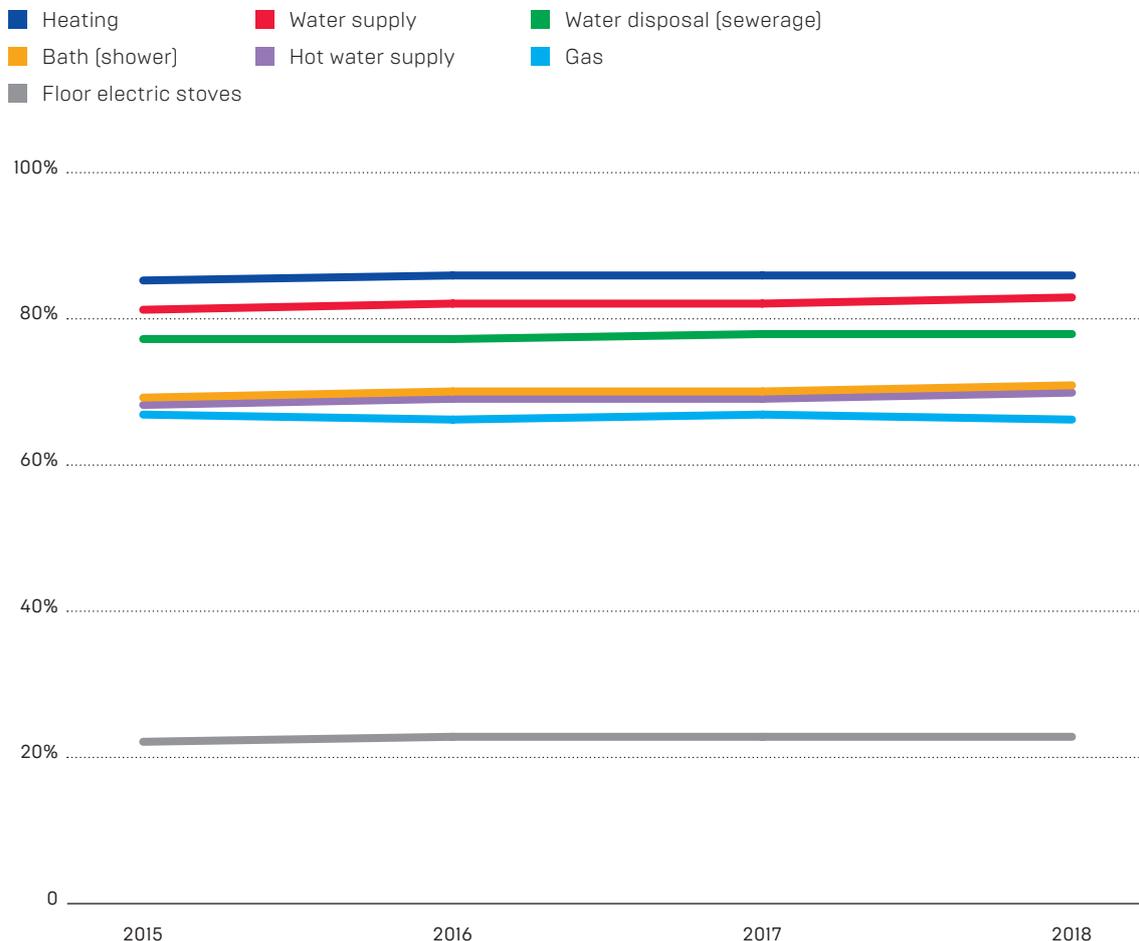
Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing (Target 11.1)

The main indicators of housing conditions in the Russian Federation for the period from 2015 to 2018 show positive dynamics. Thus, according to Rosstat, the total area of residential premises per resident (as of the end of the year) increased by 5.7% from 24.4 m² to 25.8 m². Both the total number of apartments (66.9 mln in 2018 compared to 64 mln in 2015) and the average size of an apartment (55.7 m² of total floor space in 2018 compared to 54.6 m² in 2015) are increasing. Premises in the apartments of residential buildings are undergoing annual major repairs: in general, over the period from 2015 to 2018 the total area of overhauled premises in residential buildings (for the year) increased by more than 3 times to 14.3 mln m² of total area.

The majority of the housing stock is equipped with water supply, water disposal (sewerage), heating, baths (shower), gas (pipeline, liquefied) and hot water supply, and there are trends for its improvement (Figure 20).

FIGURE 20. SHARE OF TOTAL EQUIPPED SPACE

Rosstat / as of the end of the year, % of the total housing stock



Regarding the issue of affordability of housing for Russian citizens, it should be noted that it shows an upward trend. Thus, according to the Institute for Urban Economics, the index of affordability of housing purchase (the ratio of income of an average household to the income necessary for purchasing a standard apartment with the help of a mortgage loan issued on standard terms) in Russia as a whole increased from 91% to 128% in 2015–2018. The number of years during which a family of 3 people can save up for an apartment has decreased, however under the assumption that all the cash income received will be saved for the purchase of an apartment (from 3.5 to 3.2 years).

Since 2018, the Russian Federation has been implementing “Housing and Urban Environment” National Project, the key objectives of which are, inter alia, to provide affordable housing for families with average incomes (including the use of mortgage loans), to increase the volume of housing construction, as well as to ensure a steady reduction in the uninhabitable housing stock.

Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all (Target 11.2)

The basic document for the development of sustainable transport in urban areas is Transport Strategy of the Russian Federation 2030⁸². Both conservative and innovative options for the development of the transport system suggest an increase in the volume of transportation of passengers by public transport and its growing role in achieving sustainable mobility of Russian citizens.

First of all, it is planned to provide transportation of passengers on socially important routes, as well as to ensure affordability of the latter, including the Far North and similar areas, the Far East, Trans-Baikal and the Kaliningrad Region.

State support is provided for the creation of intelligent transport systems to improve the quality of passenger transportation using modern information and telecommunications technologies and GLONASS global navigation system, vehicle and traffic control technologies.

The Russian Federation contributes to the [UN New Urban Agenda](#), in particular by taking steps to develop mechanisms and a common framework at the national, regional and local levels to assess the impact of urban and suburban transport systems, including their impact on the environment, economy, social cohesion, quality of life, accessibility, road safety, public health and climate change.

⁸² Approved by Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1734-r of 22 November 2008 as amended by Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1032-r of 11 June 2014.

Inclusive and sustainable urbanization (Target 11.3)

In comparison to 2015, in 2018 ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate dropped from 1.01 to 0.96 (Figure 21).

Spatial planning is aimed at ensuring public as well as environmental interests. Public environmental interests include ensuring the preservation of public areas (lands), which include boulevards, parks, urban forests, and other areas used for public recreational purposes. The Russian legislation in the sphere of urban development sets out procedure and subjects of coordination of territorial planning documents of different levels.

As of 1 June 2019, integrated and sustainable planning of settlements is ensured within the framework of development and approval of spatial planning documents of municipal units⁸³. Besides, there are projects being implemented in some cities and regions of the country to ensure feedback from residents and involve them in the management of cities and regions, for example, Moscow's project is called "[Aktivniy Grazhdanin](#)" (Active Citizen), and that of the Moscow region is "[Dobrodel](#)".

FIGURE 21. RATIO OF LAND CONSUMPTION RATE TO POPULATION GROWTH RATE

Rosstat



⁸³ According to cl. 18 of Town Planning Code of the Russian Federation No. 190-FZ of 29 December 2004 (as amended on 27 December 2019).

Case Study

Contribution of private sector to the development of digitalization of urban economy

Rosatom

A complex of modern technologies, “LEAN SMART CITY”, was developed by Rusatom Infrastructure Solutions JSC. A single platform accumulates and processes a large number of versatile data related to meteorological surveillance, household services, power supply of buildings, traffic circulation, traffic lights etc. Processing and analysis of the received information allows establishing interaction between representatives of municipal authorities, citizens and private sector, preparing the municipal unit for new requirements of management organization on the part of society and private sector, increasing efficiency of municipal services, and providing each resident with an opportunity to influence the issues of urban development.

The “Lean Smart City” project implementation in the city of Sarov (the Nizhny Novgorod region) ranks among the best practices of sustainable development according to the UN Human Settlements Programme. According to estimates of Sarov city administration, introduction of the technology of “Lean Smart City” annually saves at least 7% of the city budget.

There is work in progress in automating the accounting of utility resources (“smart meters”): “STRIZH” automated accounting system has been created. There are also a number of companies implementing “Smart Cities” technologies: these are RusITExport LLC (RITE), Sistema PJSFC.

Emergence of single-industry cities ⁸⁴ historically accompanied industrialization process not only in the Russian Federation, but also in other countries. Presently there are 321 single-industry cities in 63 regions of the Russian Federation, with 13.5 mln people living there (i.e. almost 10% of the population). In October 2014, Single-industry Cities Development Fund NPO was established. Its purpose is to create the necessary conditions for creating new jobs and attracting investment in single-industry cities, the development of the urban environment and removal of social barriers. See the section on SDG 9 for information on single-industry cities development.

In 2016, the development of single-industry cities was included in the list of main directions of strategic development of Russia, and the Priority Programme “Integrated Development of Single-industry Cities” was launched.

Over the 2 years of the Programme’s implementation, more than 400,000 new jobs have been created; almost 1,200 improvement projects have been implemented; 391 ambulances have

⁸⁴ A single-industry city is a populated area with more than 3000 inhabitants, whereby at least 20% of them are employed at enterprises of a single industry or a single group of companies.

been given to 315 single-industry cities; registration desks and waiting areas of healthcare centers in 289 single-industry cities have been modernized; and central streets in 310 single-industry cities have been repaired.

Russian cities are actively involved in implementing initiatives of various international associations of cities promoting the sustainable development agenda. Moscow joined the “C-40” Cities Climate Leadership Group, the World Smart Sustainable City Organization “WeGO” opened its European regional office in Ulyanovsk, and in 2019 the Mayor of Kazan became the chairperson for the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA). In 2019, Moscow joined the OECD project “Territorial Approach to Achieving the SDG”. It is a comprehensive project that includes both the formation of approaches in monitoring urban development, and the exchange of international experience and interaction with the authorities. During the project implementation 9 cities and regions of OECD partner countries joined in.

Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage (Target 11.4)

The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation cooperates with the regions of the Russian Federation in its efforts to meet the requirements of international law with regard to world cultural heritage sites⁸⁵, including:

- work has been done to clarify the component composition and the buffer zone⁸⁶ for 13 world cultural heritage sites, and similar work is continuing for six sites;
- the management plans for seven world cultural heritage sites have been approved by UNESCO and similar work is ongoing for 12 sites.

National standards for impact assessment on the universal value of world heritage sites and protected areas came into force on March 1, 2019. The evaluation should take into account both the individual and collective impact of any proposed project or change affecting the distinctive features of a world heritage site⁸⁷.

In 2016–2018 the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation organized systematic work to ensure timely informing UNESCO about construction works planned for implementation in the buffer zone

⁸⁵ As part of implementation of sub-item “b” of item 2 of the list of Instructions of the President of the Russian Federation No. Pr-571 of 31 March 2016, and Instructions of the Government of the Russian Federation No. OG-P44-1950 of 7 April 2016.

⁸⁶ Multi-component DCC objects [should have a single DCC formulation](#) covering all components and elements that constitute a multi-component object. Such formulation shall be created on the basis of the respective documentation, which includes all individual parts and components of the object.

⁸⁷ GOST R 58203–2018 “Assessment of the impact on the universal value of world heritage sites. Composition and content of the report. General Requirements”; GOST R 58204–2018 “Draft Protected Areas of world heritage site. Composition and content of the report. General Requirements”.

of such world heritage sites as “The Moscow Kremlin and Red Square”, “Historical and Cultural Complex of the Solovetsky Islands”, “Historical and Architectural Complex of the Kazan Kremlin”, “Kizhi Pogost”, “Novodevichy Convent Complex”, “Historical Center of the city of Yaroslavl”.

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 (Target 11.5)

According to the All-Russia Civil Defense and Emergency Situations Research Institute of the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters, during 2016–2018 the number of deaths in emergencies decreased from 0.538 to 0.488 (per 100,000 population), and the number of victims in Emergency Situations (ES)⁸⁸ decreased from 89.392 to 39.127 (per 100,000 population).

The Russian Federation has brought into force the State Programme “Protection of the Population and Territories from Emergency Situations, Fire Safety and Human Security at Water Bodies”⁸⁹. The purpose of the State Programme is to minimize social, economic and environmental damage caused to the population, economy and natural environment from and due to military conflicts, acts of terrorism, natural and man-made emergencies, fires and water accidents.

Full implementation of the State Programme (by 2030) will reduce the economic damage from destructive events, the number of fires and emergencies, the number of floods, as well as reduce the number of people killed in them, the average time of arrival of fire and rescue units to emergencies and fires in cities and rural areas, the number of accidents at hazardous production facilities.

Besides, Strategy for the Development of Civil Defense, Protection of the Population and Territories from Emergency Situations, Fire Safety and Human Security at Water Bodies 2030⁹⁰ was approved in 2019. Its objectives include a decrease in the number of emergency situations by at least 25 % compared to 2019, a decrease in the number of deaths in emergency situations, a decrease in the number of registered fires by at least 10 %, a decrease in the number of water accidents by at least 20 % and a decrease in the number of deaths in water accidents by at least 18 %.

One of the key documents containing measures for disaster risk reduction and protection from emergency situations is the 2030-Basic Principles of State Policy of the Russian Federation in the Sphere of Civil Defense⁹¹. The document also provides for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. Measures for the development of public

⁸⁸ The term “disaster” is not used in the Russian Federation. The term “emergency situation” is used instead.

⁸⁹ Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 300 of 15 April 2014.

⁹⁰ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 501 of 16 October 2019.

⁹¹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 696 of 20 December 2016.

policy in this area include, inter alia, the improvement of the civil defense management system, warning and information systems on the dangers arising from military conflicts and emergency situations.

Russian cities also contribute to this task. Seven cities and urban areas of Russia are participants in the [international campaign](#) "My city is getting ready!", implemented by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) as part of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign (MCRC)⁹². The aim of the campaign is to build up their resilience, endurance and ability to adapt to emergency situations.

Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management (Target 11.6)

A key aspect of the quality of life in cities is the condition of the open air. Air pollution in cities in Russia is lower than the global average, but 139 cities with a total population of more than 52 mln show that the annual average concentration of one or more pollutants in the air is significantly higher than the maximum allowable concentration (MAC). At the same time, between 2014 and 2018, the average concentrations of major pollutants in Russian cities generally decreased. The average suspended materials concentration for Russian cities in 2018 is 118 µg/m³ (lower than 1 MAC). Different trends are observed with respect to suspended materials: emissions of solids from stationary sources decreased by 16.7% between 2015 and 2018, and average annual suspended materials concentration increased by 8.3%.

The action plan for the implementation of "Clean Air" Federal Project of "Environment" National Project includes a set of measures to monitor the level of pollution and reduce air pollution in major industrial centers, including the cities of Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk, Lipetsk, Magnitogorsk, Mednogorsk, Nizhny Tagil, Novokuznetsk, Norilsk, Omsk, Chelyabinsk, Cherepovets and Chita.

Public non-profit organizations take a great part in improving the environmental situation in Russian cities. The largest and oldest environmental organization in Russia, the All-Russian Society for Nature Protection, established in 1924, organizes continuous public environmental monitoring of air and public control of the waste management industry in Moscow, Chelyabinsk and other cities. Russian Eco Society, which was established in 2017 (the Year of Ecology), forms environmental coordination councils under the auspices of the governors of several regions of the Russian Federation to promote, inter alia, the improvement of the environmental situation in the most polluted cities.

"Decontamination" systems for different classes of waste are being created and treatment facilities are being erected. The leading organizations in this area are VNIIPromtehnologii JSC, Institute Hydroproject JSC (construction of treatment facilities), RT-Khimkompozit JSC (water decontamination systems).

⁹² The international campaign was first launched in 2010 and will continue until 2020.

Case Study

Contribution of private sector to reduction of the negative environmental impact of cities

Gazprom Neft PJSC

In 2013, the Moscow Refinery Plant of Gazprom Neft PJSC was one of the first refineries in the country to switch to production of fuel of the Euro-5 eco-standard. It contains 5 times less sulphur than the Euro-4 fuel. According to Rosprirodnadzor (Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service), the conversion of Moscow transport to Euro-5 ecological class fuel allowed to reduce the environmental impact from vehicles in the capital by 35%.

The Moscow Refinery Plant has innovative biological treatment facilities “Biosphere”, which provide an almost complete cycle of water consumption. The complex was developed by a Russian company and it treats up to 99.9% of waste water. As a result of application of the “Biosphere” complex, the Moscow Refinery Plant has reduced river water consumption by 3 times. Up to 80% of the water used is returned to the production cycle, which has significantly reduced the load on the city’s wastewater treatment plants and further reduced the plant’s environmental impact.

Target 11.6 is related to poverty, healthcare and water and energy issues represented in SDGs 1, 3, 6, 7. Under “Environment” National Project, the most important direction is creating a modern system of collection and recycling of all types of solid waste of urban economy, improving the living standards of citizens and reducing the probability of outbreaks of diseases associated with the improper waste treatment.

Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas (Target 11.a)

The Russian Federation is working on integrated strategic planning and socio-economic development of its territories. Territorial planning is aimed at ensuring sustainable, integrated (including balanced socio-economic) development of the Russian Federation, its regions and municipal units. Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025, which includes the strengthening of interregional cooperation and coordination of the socio-economic development of the regions of the Russian Federation within the macro-regions of the Russian Federation (a total of 12 macro-regions have been identified in Russia), is aimed at solving this issue.

Case Study

Metalloinvest Management Company LLC (Metalloinvest)

Metalloinvest implements programmes for development of local economic mainstays in single-industry cities where it has branches. In 2017, Metalloinvest and Single-industry Cities Development Fund NPO signed a cooperation agreement that coordinates efforts within the framework of single-industry cities development programmes and supports projects and activities implemented in single-industry cities. Single-industry Cities Development Fund NPO provides consulting and information support, as well as helps find and [attract investors](#) to the company's projects. This support helps developing SMEs in single-industry cities as well.

Looking forward

Within the framework of SDG 11, one of the key objectives of the Russian Federation is to mitigate and eliminate gaps in the level of socio-economic development, quality of the urban environment, and, to a lesser extent, the level of human capital development in Russian cities.

Among the tasks the following are noteworthy: elimination of infrastructure gap and modernization of urban infrastructure, improvement of its adaptation to individual social and age groups of citizens, introduction of digital services in the urban infrastructure of small- and medium-sized cities, involvement of the population in solving common city problems.

The above-mentioned tasks are supported, among others, by Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025 and "Housing and Urban Environment" National Project. At the same time, separate projects aimed at solving these tasks (for example, projects to involve population in urban management) are also being implemented in cities.

SDG 12

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns



Transition to the use of sustainable consumption and production models (Target 12.1)

The basis for sustainable production models is the internationally accepted concept of the best available technologies, which was statutory recognized in the Russian Federation in 2014⁹³; large enterprises in key industries have already started assessing environmental and resource efficiency indicators (sustainability of resource utilization) and preparing applications for comprehensive environmental permits⁹⁴ (a procedure under which all facilities of hazard class I must undergo an environmental impact assessment).

Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources (Target 12.2)

Russia's developing co-consumption model also promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, reducing their consumption and prolonging the life of things. In 2018, [the volume of transactions](#) in the main co-consumption sectors increased by 30% compared to 2017 and amounted to 511 bln rubles. [Main sectors](#): sale of things (72% of the volume of transactions in the main sectors of co-consumption in 2018), use of transport (carsharing and carpooling – about 2.5% each), short-term accommodation (2%), etc.

Strategy for the development of the automobile industry of the Russian Federation 2025⁹⁵ predicts an increase in demand for electric cars due to a decrease in the cost of batteries and an increase in the share of electric cars in sales in the Russian market in 2020 to 15–25 thousand cars per year, and by 2025 – to 85–100 thousand cars. Support and regulation measures include the development of charging infrastructure, transport tax benefits, free parking within the city limits, access to lanes for route vehicles, etc.

One of the key directions of the resource saving policy in Russia at present and for the future up to 2030 is energy saving and energy efficiency improvement. See the section on SDG 7 for information on energy efficiency development.

According to the Law "On energy saving"⁹⁶ which was adopted in 2009, owners of buildings, structures, facilities, owners of premises in apartment buildings shall equip their premises with energy resources metering devices.

⁹³ Federal Law No. 219-FZ of 21 July 2014 (as amended on 26 July 2019) "On Amendments to the Federal Law "On Environmental Protection" and specific legislative acts of the Russian Federation".

⁹⁴ "Introduction of BAT" Federal Project, Passport of "Environment" National Project (approved by the Presidium of the Presidential Council for Strategic Development and National Projects, Minutes No. 16 of 24 December 2018).

⁹⁵ Approved by the Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 831-r of 28 April 2018.

⁹⁶ Federal Law No. 261-FZ of 23 November 2009 "On energy saving and increasing energy efficiency".

Case Study

Severstal PJSC

Severstal is implementing a programme to increase the share of secondary energy use. As of 2019, the Cherepovets Steel Mill, the company's largest plant, meets its electricity demand by 27.9% via secondary fuel. By 2025, the company plans to increase the share of secondary gases in electricity generation to 33.9%.

Strategy for the Development of Industrial Processing, Utilization and Decontamination of Production and Consumption Wastes 2030⁹⁷ provides for:

- increasing the share of recycled and neutralized waste in the total waste volume from 59.6% in 2016 to 86% by 2030;
- increasing the share of Solid Municipal waste (SMW) intended for processing in the total volume of those removed from the places of concentration by almost 10 times, from 8.9% in 2016 to 80% by 2030.

The basic principles of the state policy in the field of environmental development of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2030⁹⁸ envisage the introduction of innovative resource-saving, environmentally safe and efficient technologies based on a single technological platform; sustainable use of renewable and sustainable management of non-renewable natural resources; stimulating investment attraction in the introduction of resource-saving technologies, production of environmentally friendly products, research and development, etc.

Achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes (Target 12.4)

Production and handling of potentially hazardous chemical substances, including radioactive, other substances and microorganisms, is allowed on the territory of the Russian Federation after the necessary toxicological-hygienic and toxicological inspections of these substances have been conducted, the handling procedure has been set, and environmental standards and state registration of these substances in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation have been

⁹⁷ Approved by Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 84-r of 25 January 2018.

⁹⁸ Approved by the President of the Russian Federation on 30 April 2012.

established. The Federal Law “On Safe Handling of Pesticides and Agrochemicals”⁹⁹ sets requirements for all stages of handling these substances, including decontamination, disposal and landfill.

Russia’s production and consumption waste generation is growing (7.3 bln tons in 2018 compared to 5.1 bln tons in 2015), but the majority of those (98.2% in 2018) are hazard class V waste (with the lowest environmental impact). [The amount of generated waste](#) of hazard class I (extremely hazardous) decreased 4-fold in 2015–2018, making it from 80 to 20 thousand tons, and the amount of generated waste of hazard class II (highly hazardous) in 2018 was 270 thousand tons (at the level of 2015, but significantly lower than in 2010: 710 thousand tons). Despite the growth of waste generation, the volume of recycling and neutralization of waste is also increasing. This figure for 2015–2018 rose from 2 685 to 3 818 thousand tons. During the period, the volume of waste burial also increased almost 3 times: from 354.6 to 1029.2 mln tons.

The Russian Federation is a party to [key international agreements on hazardous chemicals management](#): Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, since 1995; Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants – since 2011; Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade – since 2011; Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer – since 1986; Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer – since 1988.

Russia has prioritized the problems of hazardous waste disposal in recent years. In January 2018, Strategy for the Development of Industrial Processing, Utilization and Decontamination of Production and Consumption Wastes 2030 was approved.

Russia’s experience in creating the [Federal Register of Potentially Hazardous Chemical and Biological Substances](#) is highly acclaimed at the international level. In particular, it is included in [the first international comprehensive analysis](#) of national and regional catalogues of chemical substances.

Case Study

A significant contribution to waste processing was made by Ecotechprom SUE, MKM Logistics LLC, Ecoline LLC, Hartiya LLC and RT-Invest.

Polymetal PLC

In 2019, [Polymetal PLC](#) developed and implemented a corporate management system for cyanide. Two enterprises were certified according to the standards of the International Cyanide Management Code “ICM”. Organizations that have acceded to the Code voluntarily commit to comply with certain standards for safe production, transportation, storage, use and disposal of cyanides used in gold production.

⁹⁹ Federal Law No. 109-FZ of 19 July 1997 “On safe handling of pesticides and agrochemicals”.

Reduction of waste through measures for prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse (target 12.5)

More than 80% of the regions the Russian Federation have already [switched](#) to a new integrated system for handling SMW. Russian ecological operator, a single federal operator of SMW management system, began its work in 2019. 2017 saw the [first time when producers and exporters of goods paid environmental fee](#) for 2016, and the total fee amounted to 1.3 bln rubles. In 2019, environmental collection rates [increased](#) for all 54 product and packaging groups to be recycled after loss of consumer properties.

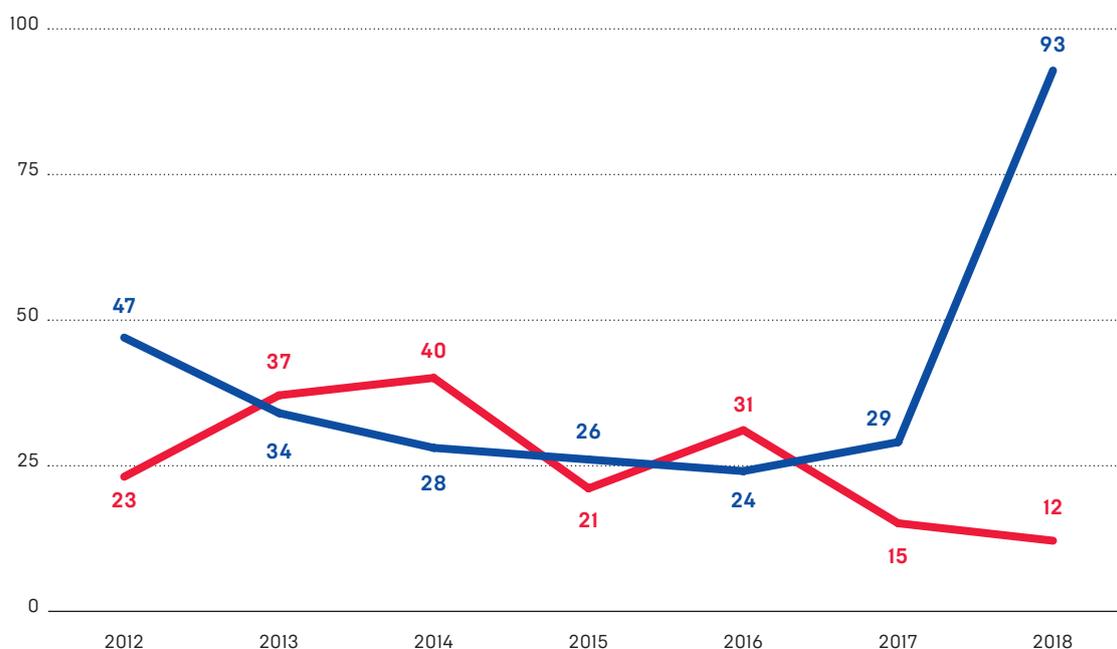
The number of commissioned waste treatment plants increased in 2010–2018, hitting its maximum in 2018 (93 plants commissioned). The number of commissioned waste treatment plants and landfills for waste disposal, decontamination and burial decreased from 23 to 12 in the same period (Figure 22)¹⁰⁰.

FIGURE 22. DYNAMICS OF QUANTITY OF WASTE UTILIZATION, NEUTRALIZATION AND LANFILL FACILITIES PUT INTO OPERATION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation / units

■ Industrial waste utilization and processing plants

■ Enterprises and landfills for waste utilization, neutralization and disposal



¹⁰⁰ State report "On the state and protection of the environment of the Russian Federation in 2018".

It is planned to conduct an experiment in 12 cities of Russia in 2020–2024 on emission quotas¹⁰¹. For each of these cities, summary calculations of air pollution from different sources will be made and a comprehensive emission reduction plan with reduction targets to be achieved during the experiment on the main sources of pollution will be approved.

A system of separate waste collection and recycling is being introduced in Russia. A list of types of waste that are prohibited for dumping was approved in 2017¹⁰². According to the list, it is prohibited to dispose glass, polyethylene and polypropylene packaging and containers, pneumatic and rubber tires, tubes and casings for them, as well as paper waste starting from 2019.

According to an assessment [conducted](#) in 2020, infrastructure for separate waste collection has been established in 82% of Russian cities with a population of over 100,000 people. Fully separate waste collection has been implemented in 26 Russian cities (and 45 cities use the “two-container system” for separate waste collection: a container for mixed waste and a container for plastic, paper, glass, etc.). 18.5% of citizens have access to separate waste collection, which is almost 2.5 times more than in 2018.

Case Study

Segezha Timber Holding

In 2018, Segezha Timber Holding put into operation a modern multi-fuel boiler (MB), which allows using wood waste and sewage sludge as fuel, thus significantly reducing emissions into the atmosphere and localizing the impact on the environment. Launch of MB [allows](#) reducing fuel oil consumption up to 30% across the enterprise and minimizing emissions into the atmosphere up to 40% per year.

Chain stores

Companies are also implementing initiatives to encourage consumers to consume responsibly. For example, retail chains (Magnit, X5 Retail Group) [install reverse vending machines](#) (automatic machines for collecting plastic containers and aluminum cans for their further shipment for recycling). Consumers will be given discounts on the purchase of new products for the use of reverse vending machines.

¹⁰¹ Federal Law No. 195-FZ of 26 July 2019 “On conducting an experiment to quota emissions of pollutants and on introducing amendments to certain legislative acts of the Russian Federation with regard to reducing air pollution”.

¹⁰² Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1589-r of 25 July 2017.

Case Study

LafargeHolcim

LafargeHolcim uses waste disposal technology in cement kilns at its plants. Starting from 2015 the company has been disposing of sorted SMW and wood industry waste at its plant in the Kaluga region. The use of waste as an alternative fuel and raw materials in the cement industry reduces the negative impact on the environment, including CO₂ emissions and minimizing the use of natural resources. At LafargeHolcim's facilities, the global average replacement rate for alternative fuels is 58%.

Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle (Target 12.6)

It is becoming a common practice in Russia to include information on companies' priorities in the sphere of sustainable development, on the correlation of business goals and performance with SDG-2030 in the reports. Among the factors contributing to the achievement of the SDG is the introduction of innovations, new energy and resource-saving technologies. Among the priority goals of companies are responsible production and consumption. These issues are reflected in non-financial reports.

In 2017, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the Concept for Development of Public Non-Financial Reporting and the action plan for its implementation¹⁰³. In accordance with the Concept, a draft Federal Law "On Public Non-financial Reporting" has been developed. The Concept envisages the introduction of general requirements for the disclosure of non-financial information by companies with state participation, as well as by commercial organizations with annual revenues equal or exceeding 10 bln rubles (more than USD 150 mln). A list of key indicators that shall be mandatorily disclosed is being developed. While developing the list of indicators the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) minimum reporting requirements on sustainability issues were taken into account. UNCTAD indicators have been tested by participants from nine countries. Norilskiy Nickel company became one of their testers in Russia in 2019.

¹⁰³ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 876-r of 5 May 2017.

Non-financial reporting development in Russia is monitored by Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP) on a regular basis. For this purpose, a [National Registry of Corporate Non-Financial Reports](#) and an electronic library of reports have been created. As of the beginning of 2020, about 200 companies have been entered into the Registry and more than 1000 reports have been registered, of which more than two thirds have been prepared using the Global Sustainable Development Reporting Initiative (GRI). More than one third of the companies whose reports are included in the Registry use various verification formats, including professional audit and public confirmation of the reporting information¹⁰⁴.

Starting from 2014 RSPP has been compiling comprehensive sustainable development indexes characterizing the behavior of companies. These are two related ESG indexes (Environmental, Social and Governance Indexes) – [“Responsibility and Openness”](#) and [“Vector of Sustainable Development”](#), as well as the Moscow Stock Exchange – RSPP stock indexes developed on their basis. “Responsibility and Openness” index reflects the situation with regard to the disclosure of information on sustainable development issues. “Vector of Sustainable Development” index reflects the performance of companies and assesses the dynamics of key socio-economic and environmental indicators. These Indices are included in [the international database of sustainable development indices and ratings](#).

Sustainable development stock indices have been in the process of development since 2019. The list of index issuers is formed from among the leaders per RSPP indices. RSPP and the Moscow Exchange were nominated for the [ISAR Honors 2019 Prize](#) for sustainable development stock indices.

Case Study

UC RUSAL

Since 2015, [UC RUSAL](#) has been a member of the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI), within the framework of which it interacts with participants in the aluminium value chain around the world. A number of UC RUSAL’s enterprises were certified under ASI standards in 2019.

¹⁰⁴ Professional audit and public confirmation are equally demanded by companies which use either or both forms of independent confirmation simultaneously. The RSPP Non-Financial Reporting Council, which has been in operation since 2009, put for the public confirmation procedure and gave recommendations to improve the quality of reporting on about 20% of sustainability reports from the National Registry of Corporate Non-Financial Reports.

Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities (Target 12.7)

The Basic Principles of the Environmental Policy of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2030¹⁰⁵ define one of the mechanisms of environmental protection as "... ensuring the advantage (whereby all other conditions are equal) of goods, works and services that meet the established environmental requirements while placing orders for the supply of goods, works and services for state and municipal needs". According to the Law "On public procurement" "qualitative, functional and environmental characteristics of the object of procurement", as well as the cost of the life cycle of goods are taken into account in procurement¹⁰⁶.

As an example of initiatives of regional authorities one may cite the decision of the Moscow City Government "On environmental requirements for the quality and technical characteristics of products purchased under the public order of the city of Moscow, and on directions for improvement of environmental certification and audit systems"¹⁰⁷.

The "green" procurement tool is actively supported by private sector. "Green" procurement involves the selection of products with an eco-label or any environmentally preferable characteristics: absent or reduced harmful components compared to similar products, energy efficiency, and etc.

Case Study

MTS PJSC

Many Russian companies are implementing a policy of responsibility in the supply chain, requiring suppliers and contractors to comply with environmental, health, safety and ethical standards. For example, MTS PJSC has a Supplier's Code of Business Conduct, which contains the minimum standards that the suppliers should comply with. In addition to honesty and integrity, the Code [underscores](#) the importance of suppliers' compliance with legislation on environment and human rights.

¹⁰⁵ Approved by the President of the Russian Federation on 30 April 2012.

¹⁰⁶ Federal Law No. 44-FZ of 5 April 2013 "On the Contract System of the Federal and Municipal Procurement of Goods, Works and Services".

¹⁰⁷ Resolution of the Government of the city of Moscow No. 3326PP of 20 April 2010.

Ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature (Target 12.8)

According to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, 142 higher education institutions in Russia (HEI) and 19 branches of universities provide training in the field of “Ecology and environmental management”. UNESCO academic department for “Ethics of science and technology, sustainable development and transport systems” [was opened](#) on the basis of the Russian University of Transport in 2019. There are plans to admit students for “Sustainable development and waste management in transport” and “Environmental and social sustainability of transport systems and technologies” directions in 2020.

For over 20 years [Vernadsky Non-Governmental Environmental Foundation](#) has been actively promoting the concept of forming and developing environmental culture through environmental education and volunteer work. The Foundation carries out environmental education project “Ecology Days” teaming up with the Foundation members, the latter being mostly the representatives of the Russian business sphere, and having support from the leading regional HEIs. In 2019, the target audience was 1,500 people. The total number of participants from different regions of the country exceeds 10,000 people (since 2013). Another initiative of the Foundation is the [All-Russian Environmental Clean-Up Party “Green Spring”](#). This movement started in 2014, and now it unites 13 mln volunteers in all regions of the Russian Federation.

Case Study

Separate Collection NPO

[Separate Collection non-profit organization](#) unites thousands of like-minded people all over Russia and helps to implement separate waste collection in organizations and at events; it develops “Poleznyi Magazin” (Useful Shop) fundraising project with reusable substitutes for disposable items, conducts environmental education campaigns, develops [“Sobirator”](#) (Collector) charity project (collection of second-hand materials for recycling and items for charity).

“VuzEcoFest” project

This [project](#) is aimed at creating a community of leaders, mentors and subsequently professionals in the field of sustainable development who disseminate knowledge, skills and implement specific solutions on the basis of universities, cities and other administrative units with the support of stakeholders (university administrations, business representatives, NPOs and government agencies), as well as promote institutional changes in the field of sustainable development at the national level. In 2019, 64 universities of Russia and Belarus from 22 cities, 595 volunteers [took part](#) in “VuzEcoFest” campaigns, with more than 200 events held.

NPO activities in the field of environmental education, promotion of environmentally responsible lifestyle, separate waste collection, “green” development of urban environment, etc. are supported under the grant programme of the President of the Russian Federation. More than 80 mln rubles [was allocated](#) for these purposes in 2019.

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

More than 2.5 thousand foreign students study in Russia under programmes of health and safety, environmental management and protection, as well as restoration and processing of forest resources.

Since 2017 the Centre for Environmental Industrial Policy¹⁰⁸ within the framework of OECD project, has been supporting experts from India and Kazakhstan in developing BAT legislation.

In 2017–2019, UNDP project “Standards and Regulations for Promoting Energy Efficiency in the Countries of the Eurasian Economic Union” was implemented with financial support from the Russian Federation amounting to USD 1.5 mln (Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan). It was aimed at reducing energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas emissions by improving energy efficiency in lighting, household appliances and engineering equipment of buildings. As a result of the project implementation, an energy saving potential of 3.1 bln kWh per year has been achieved for the EAEU countries through changing energy efficiency requirements towards the products in the market and raising consumer awareness on energy saving issues.

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

Russia has great potential for developing responsible tourism, including pristine nature and rich cultural and historical traditions. In 2016, the country [ranked](#) among the top 10 most popular tourist destinations in the world and became second (after Poland) in the rating of European countries per the growth of tourist flow. Russia is also working to develop eco-cultural and socially responsible tourism, including via special programmes at universities.

¹⁰⁸ Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1508 of 28 December 2016 “On some issues of the activities of BAT Bureau”.

“Environment” National Project includes [“Conservation of biological diversity and development of ecological tourism”](#) Federal Project, aimed at increasing the number of visitors to specially protected natural areas. It is envisaged to form methodological and regulatory basis for creation of ecological tourism infrastructure. See the sections on SDG 14 and SDG 15 for information and statistics on SPNAs.

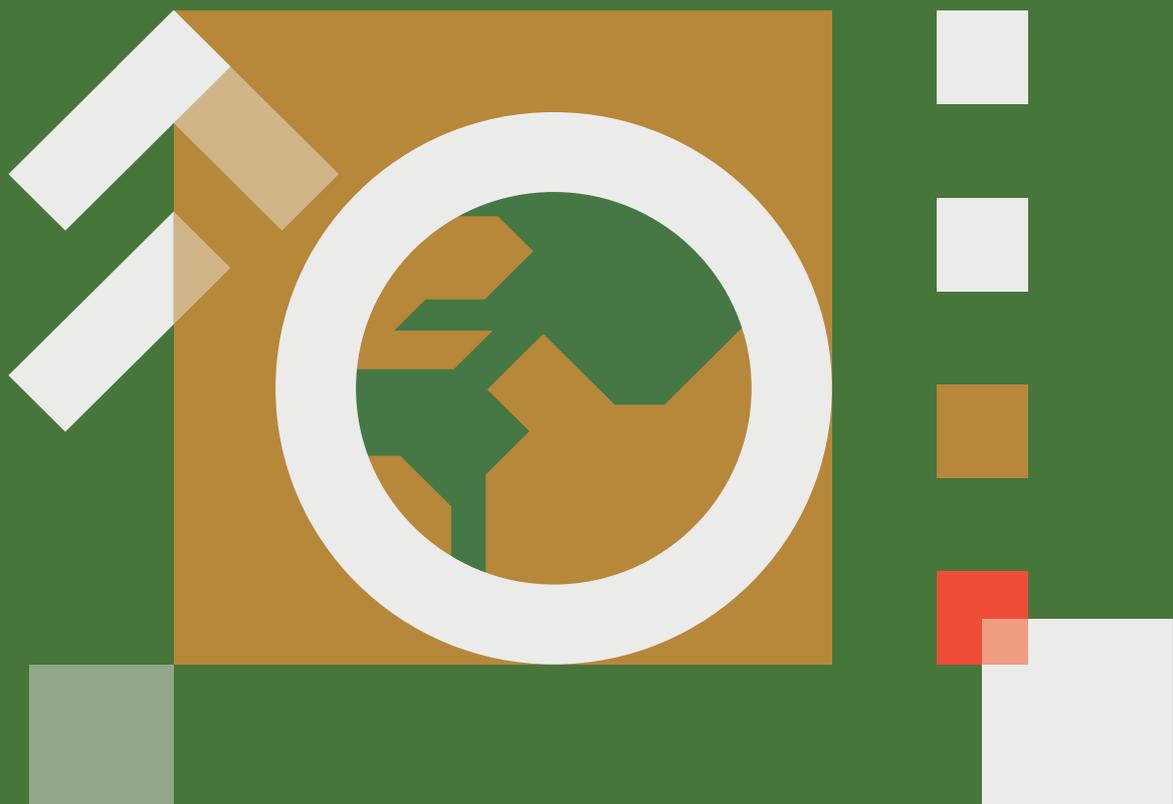
Looking forward

Russia witnesses the development of co-consumption models, economic incentives for business entities to reduce waste generation, stricter requirements for car engines to reduce the concentration of pollutants in exhaust emissions, etc. Besides, it noteworthy to mention the growing involvement of private sector in responsible production and consumption processes. These areas, in particular, contribute to the task of helping to reduce production and consumption waste generation.

One of the important government tasks is to develop a modern waste management system throughout the country based the 3R Principle, i.e. “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”. There is work in progress to create an infrastructure for waste processing, neutralization and transportation.

SDG 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries (Target 13.1)

The issues of adaptation to climate change and vulnerability reduction are highly relevant for the Russian Federation, as the country deeply feels the consequences of that process. Development and implementation of prompt and long-term appropriate measures are one of the main tasks of the Russian Federation's state climate policy.

Russia's adaptation capacity is largely determined by the size of its territories and the differentiation of risks posed by hydrometeorological hazards (weather and climate risks) for the population in different regions of the country (Figure 23).

In 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation approved the National Action Plan for the first phase of adaptation to climate change for the period up to 2022. It includes activities aimed at establishing a legal, regulatory, methodological and institutional framework as well as appropriate measures to monitor the implementation of adaptation plans.

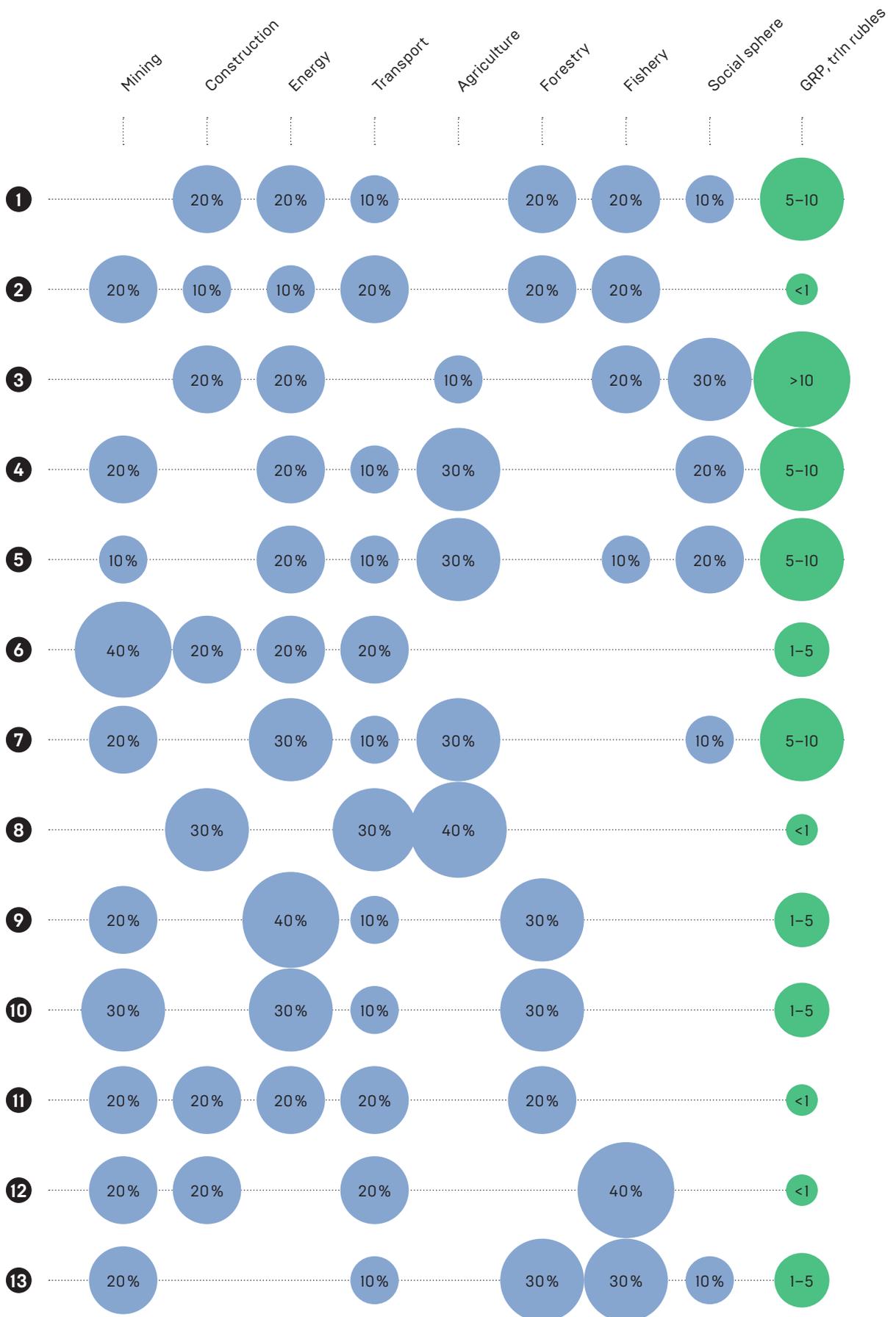
FIGURE 23. CORRELATION OF WEATHER AND CLIMATE RISKS FOR ECONOMIC SECTORS AND SOCIAL SECTORS IN THE REGIONS OF RUSSIA

[Report on climatic risks in the Russian Federation 2017](#)

Risks posed by hydrometeorological hazards to population

0–0.32 0.33–0.66 0.67–1





Case Study

Adaptation to climate change on the regional level

In 2017–2019, the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area implemented an [Action Plan](#) (“road map”) for adaptation to climate change, which includes measures to reduce negative anthropogenic impact on climate; conservation and reproduction of forests as sinks for greenhouse gases; and scientific support.

Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning (Target 13.2)

The Russian Federation is a Party to the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol (it was ratification of the Protocol on the Russian part that made it possible to meet the necessary procedural requirements for its launch) and the Paris Agreement adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in 2015, and, in accordance with its obligations under these international legal instruments, pursues its national policy and takes measures to limit anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and to protect and improve the quality of sinks and accumulators of greenhouse gases. Russia also consistently performs its obligations under the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

As per its international obligations to limit greenhouse gas emissions, the Russian Federation is the undisputed leader in the cumulative reduction of annual greenhouse gas emissions in comparison to 1990 levels, which is 41 bln tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. The efforts of the Russian Federation alone have delayed global warming by one year and more than doubled the total contribution of the European Union countries to the response to the threat of climate change (19 bln tons). Measures taken by Russia and a number of European Union countries since 1990 have made it possible to significantly offset the growth of greenhouse gas emissions in developing and a number of developed states that are members to international climate agreements.

As a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, the Russian Federation participated in the implementation of its first commitment period, under which it over-fulfilled its quantitative obligations to limit its total anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Presently, Russia is currently carrying out its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol, which include measures to improve energy efficiency, protect and improve the quality of greenhouse gas sinks and accumulators, promote sound forest management practices, encourage sustainable forms of agriculture, conduct research, promote the wider use of new and renewable sources of energy, limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport, as well as from generation, transportation and distribution of energy.

The Russian Federation is taking measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to no more than 75% of 1990 levels by 2020. The target index was set at the national level in the initiative manner

in 2013¹⁰⁹. According to the national inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and removals, total emissions for the last year covered by the national inventory decreased significantly in comparison to the 1990 baseline: by 49%, including greenhouse gas emissions and removals from Land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF), and by 32% excluding LULUCF (see the Statistical Annex).

In 2009, the President of the Russian Federation approved the Climate Doctrine of the Russian Federation¹¹⁰. The doctrine defined the main directions of national policy in the field of combating climate change (development of the normative legal framework and organization of state regulation, development of economic mechanisms, scientific, information and human resources support, international cooperation), which were subsequently specified in 2011 in the 2020-Comprehensive Plan of its implementation.

In 2016, the Russian Federation signed the Paris Agreement¹¹¹. The Russian Federation accepted it in September 2019 with a statement stipulating, among other things, the importance of preserving and enhancing the absorption capacity of forests and other ecosystems¹¹².

As part of the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the Government of the Russian Federation has approved the National Action Plan for the first phase of adaptation to climate change for the period up to 2022, and is in process of discussion of a draft long-term strategy for diversifying economic development and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and a Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement.

Case Study

Contribution of Russian cities to the achievement of the SDG to combat climate change

Moscow

Since 2017, at the initiative of the City Government, Moscow annually hosts the [Climate Forum](#) of Cities with the participation of representatives of cities, private sector and science, leading experts in the field of sustainable development and climatology from Russia and foreign countries. Within the framework of the Climate Forum “Green and Healthy Streets”, declaration [was signed](#) in September 2019.

¹⁰⁹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 752 of 30 September 2013 “On reduction of greenhouse gas emissions”.

¹¹⁰ Executive Order of the President of the Russian Federation No. 861-rp of 17 December 2009 “On Climate Doctrine of the Russian Federation”.

¹¹¹ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 670-r of 14 April 2016.

¹¹² Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1228 of 21 September 2019.

Case Study

Saint Petersburg

In St. Petersburg work [was carried out](#) to ensure the accounting of GHGs at large enterprises (2014–2015), to develop tools for state support for the implementation of GHG reduction projects (2014–2018) and scenarios for the economic regulation of GHGs with the possibility of additional limitation measures (2016 onwards).

Kazan, Kaliningrad, Rostov-on-Don, Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk

In 2013–2017, five pilot cities of Russia (Kazan, Kaliningrad, Rostov-on-Don, Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk) were implementing the “Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Road Transport in Russia’s medium-sized Cities” [project](#) of the United Nations Development Programme / Global Environment Facility and the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation.

Overall, between 1990 and 2017, the Russian Federation’s greenhouse gas emissions decreased in the energy sector (by 34%), industry (by 18%) and agriculture (by 54%). During this period, land use and forestry have seen an 8-fold increase in greenhouse gas removal.

The reduction of total emissions compared to 1990 and its stabilization at about 1.6 bln tons of CO₂-equivalent is driven by the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the energy sector, as well as by changing the structure of its fuel balance, increasing energy efficiency of the Russian economy and increased absorption through land use and forestry.

The balance of emissions from land use and forestry is largely determined by changes in logging volumes, forest fires and carbon balance on cropland, grassland, wetlands and lands of other categories. Compared to 1990, the area of forest land in the Russian Federation has increased by 15%, mainly due to the conversion of agricultural land overgrowing with forest and the involvement of unmanaged forest land in the economic turnover. The area of grasslands (about 40%) and wetlands (about 25%) increased with a reduction of cropland almost by a third.

As a result of the transformation of the Russian economy, the carbon intensity of national GDP decreased by 2.3 times in comparison to 1990 and by 1.5 times in comparison to 2000. At the same time, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions caused by the decline of the Russian economy in the 1990s was almost entirely offset by economic growth after 2000.

Over the 2015–2018 period, the consumption of coal and petroleum products in the Russian Federation decreased, and their aggregate share in the balance decreased from 33% to 29%, while the volume of gas consumption increased by 3.5% per year on average (including due

to the growth of the value-added use of associated petroleum gas)¹¹³. Consumption of ‘non-hydrocarbon’ primary energy (hydropower, nuclear fuel and renewable energy sources) increased on average by 1.5% per year, with the solar and wind energy segment being the absolute leader in terms of growth rates (13% per year). As compared to 2000, the energy intensity of the Russian Federation’s GDP decreased by more than 40%, while the GDP growth was 81%.

Ongoing “Environment” National Project will also contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by switching to the best available technologies; efficient management of production and consumption waste; reduction of air pollution in large industrial centers; and ensuring 100% balance of forest disposal and reproduction.

Case Study

Contribution of private sector to reaching SDG on combating climate change¹¹⁴

SIBUR Holding PJSC

SIBUR Holding PJSC provides oil producing companies with an environmentally and economically efficient solution for utilization of associated petroleum gas (APG), i.e. its processing at gas processing plants. In 2019, APG processing volumes [hit a company history record](#) of 23.9 mln cubic meters. Such processing volume helped preventing greenhouse gas emissions of more than 72 mln tons, which is comparable to the annual CO₂ emissions of an average European country.

UC RUSAL

ALLOW is low carbon footprint aluminum and is a new brand by UC RUSAL having one of the lowest carbon footprints in the industry, not exceeding 4 tons of CO₂-equivalent per ton of aluminum, which is three times less the global average.

UC RUSAL’s Corporate University has prepared “RUSAL’s Clean Step” special training course dedicated to climate change. During two years 35,000 employees, 7,700 managers, technical specialists, and 823 executives underwent the training.

¹¹³ State report on the status of energy saving and increasing energy efficiency in the Russian Federation, 2019

¹¹⁴ According to the reviewed companies, including data from environmental reports, as well as data from “Russian Business and SDG” [compendium of corporate practices](#) of RSPP (except as otherwise expressly stated).

Case Study

Lukoil PJSC

In 2017, Lukoil PJSC joined the World Bank's Zero Routine Flaring of Associated Gas by 2030" initiative, which was announced in April 2015 to unite the efforts of government agencies, oil companies and public organizations in the sphere of APG application. In 2019, the APG utilization rate at Lukoil PJSC [was over 98%](#).

Russian Carbon Fund

In 2017, Russian Carbon Fund [launched](#) DAO IPCI project, the world's first platform for green financial instruments that uses distributed ledger technology. The platform was presented at COP23, COP24 and COP25. The Fund has also developed and launched a carbon unit emission standard based on a [Blockchain Climate Standard](#) distributed ledger. DAO IPCI platform was used for the pilot issue of "green certificates" in Skolkovo together with VEB.RF, NP Market Council and Skolkovo Foundation, as well as in Chile in partnership with EnorChile S.A. company. Basing on the platform's experience, the Fund will develop a new protocol for issue and monitoring of green bonds on blockchain in partnership with the UNFCCC in 2020.

Russian Partnership for Climate Conservation

In November of 2015, UC RUSAL, Sberbank, RUSNANO Group, RusHydro Group and Ingosstrakh launched the [Climate Partnership of Russia](#). The initiative was supported by the UN Global Compact Russian Network, VTB Bank, All Russia Public Organization "Business Russia" and etc. The Climate Partnership of Russia includes companies from a wide range of industries, from metallurgy to banks and insurance companies. The aim of the partnership is to bring together efforts to reduce environmental impact, to prevent climate change, and to shift to a low-carbon economy.

Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning (Target 13.3)

Russia pays considerable attention to information work with the population on existing climate challenges; special emphasis is placed on the younger generation.

Case Study

World Wildlife Fund (WWF Russia) educational initiatives

The Fund developed a textbook titled “Climate Change” for high school teachers of general education institutions¹¹⁵. In 2018, the Fund teamed up with “ECA” movement under “Climate Change and the link with forest conservation” grant of the President of the Russian Federation to prepare “[Forest and Climate](#)” national environmental lesson. The lesson has two versions, one for the junior and one for the high school students. It unites the latest methodological developments in interactive communication, suggests game tasks and practical action options for protecting forests in the context of climate change and reduction of CO₂ emissions. During the year the lesson was held in more than 11 thousand schools in Russia from all 85 regions of the country, as well as from 8 other countries.

UNDP’s “Climate Box” initiative

UNDP’s “Climate Box” initiative was launched in Russia in 2014. “Climate Box” is an interactive tutorial for schoolchildren, developed with the participation of Russian specialists. Under a UNDP regional project funded by Russia, its adapted and translated versions are piloted in schools in Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Over 5,000 schoolchildren and 2,000 teachers in these countries have already read the tutorial and implemented local school projects on climate change adaptation and energy efficiency¹¹⁶.

The topic of global climate change, climate factors and projected impacts of climate change on different natural and economic zones has been included in the draft of new federal state standards for secondary school education. Climate change mitigation, adaptation and early warning are included in the curricula of higher education institutions (e.g. Peoples’ Friendship University of Russia, MGIMO University, and National Research University Higher School of Economics¹¹⁷).

¹¹⁵ A. O. Kokorin, E. V. Smirnova, D. G. Zamolodchikov. Climate Change. A book for teachers of high schools of general education institutions. Issue 1. Regions of the North of the European part of Russia and Western Siberia. M., 2013.

¹¹⁶ According to the UNDP support office in Russia.

¹¹⁷ [The Scientific and Educational Laboratory for Climate Change Economics](#) with an active educational component has been operating at the National Research University Higher School of Economics since 2019.

Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Target 13.a)

The Russian Federation is an active participant in the international climate process according to the UNFCCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. By its consistent work in that direction, the country is making a significant contribution to solving issues of critical application for reducing anthropogenic impacts on the Earth's climate system and ensuring socio-economic and environmental sustainability worldwide. Russia also takes part in the activities of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and makes voluntary contributions to its Trust Fund. Russian experts of international standing work as leading authors and compilers of IPCC scientific report chapters, and participate in the analysis of the processes of climate change and their consequences for natural and socio-economic systems. Russia is a member of the IPCC Bureau which is its coordinating body.

Despite the absence of legal obligations to provide financial assistance to developing countries¹¹⁸, Russia is implementing climate financing on a voluntary basis. In 2018 Russia became one of the donor countries of the Green Climate Fund (as of January 2019, USD 3 mln was allocated to the Fund). In addition, it is planned to allocate another USD 10 mln during 2020–2022¹¹⁹.

Projects to strengthen the capacity of Pacific Small Island Developing States to effectively prevent and manage natural disasters and to strengthen their capacity to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change continue to be implemented jointly with UNDP ([total budget: USD 7.5 mln](#)). In 2016, Russia also allocated USD 10 mln to implement relevant projects in priority recipient countries as part of the existing [“Climate Change Window”](#) of Russia-UNDP Trust Fund.

Green financing

The Bank of Russia is exploring options for “green” financing. According to [the Main Development Trends of the Russian financial market for the period 2019–2021](#), the financial market is capable of promoting investments that help preserve and improve living conditions.

[The Action Plan \(“road map”\) for the implementation of the Main Development Trends of the Russian financial market for the period 2019–2021](#) includes the attraction of investors focused on financing socially responsible projects. Such events will help attracting foreign direct investments oriented to socially responsible projects and creation of competitive production capacities to Russia, including through verification of responsible financing projects, disclosure of information in accordance with international standards (ICMA Green Bond Principles, ICMA Green Loan Principles, and etc.), ensuring segregation of cash flows per responsible financing projects.

¹¹⁸ According to item 3 of article 4 of the UNFCCC, the obligations to provide financial assistance to developing countries are imposed on developed countries and those countries that are deemed to be developed. Under the UNFCCC clauses, Russia is classified as a country undergoing the process of transition to a market economy [Annex I of [UNFCCC](#)].

¹¹⁹ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 3034-r of 14 December 2019.

Case Study

RSB KHMAO LLC

In 2018, Russia was included in the list of countries whose companies issue green bonds. On December 19, 2018, RSB KHMAO LLC completed MOEX listing of bonds with a total par value of 1.1 bln rubles for financing of a concession project for construction and operation of a complex intermunicipal landfill in the Nefteyugansk district, which is intended for disposal, neutralization and treatment of solid municipal waste for the cities of the Nefteyugansk district of the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area. RSB KHMAO LLC became the first issuer of green bonds in Russia based on Green Bond Principle ICMA. The company received second opinion from Rating-Agentur Expert RA GmbH, a European rating agency.

In early October 2019 Russia established the Competence and Green Expertise Center on the basis of the National Association of Concessionaires and Long-Term Infrastructure Investors (NAKDI). The Center brings together leading market experts to unite the efforts of public authorities and private institutions, expert support of companies and organizations willing to issue green financial instruments, as well as investors who express their commitment to sustainable investments. As of the end of Q1 2020, 5 issuers conducted 8 issues of green bonds totaling 7.55 bln rubles, EUR 500 mln and CHF 250 mln. The issuers raised financing for projects in housing and utilities, energy, transport and real estate sectors. 4 issuers listed their bonds at the Moscow Exchange, one – at the Irish Exchange, and one – at the Swiss Exchange.

In August 2019, Moscow Exchange PJSC established the Sustainable Development Sector to finance projects aimed at environmental protection and social development. Those bonds that are to be included in this sector must conform with the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) principles for green bonds and/or the International Nonprofit Organization Climate Bond Initiative standard for green bonds. (Climate Bonds Initiative, CBI).

The Arctic and climate change

The study of the current state of the Russian Arctic has shown that presently its ice sheet is decreasing almost everywhere. Thus, the data of mid-September 2019 showed that the minimum average monthly area covered by sea ice amounted to 4.10 mln square kilometers, which is the third after the absolute minimum of 2012 (3.35 mln square meters) and 2016 (4,099 mln square meters).

Preservation of the unique ecosystems in the Arctic is one of the main national interests of Russia. The main objectives of the state policy of the Russian Federation in the Arctic are

to preserve and protect of the Arctic natural environment, and to eliminate the environmental consequences of increasing economic activities and global climate change¹²⁰.

Climate change in the Arctic impacts the level of socio-economic development in the region, primarily on the living conditions of indigenous small ethnic communities. The Russian Federation supports the traditional activities of Arctic indigenous peoples, including rangeland deer farming, which is the most vulnerable to climate change but is of economic and cultural significance for indigenous peoples of the Extreme North.

Looking forward

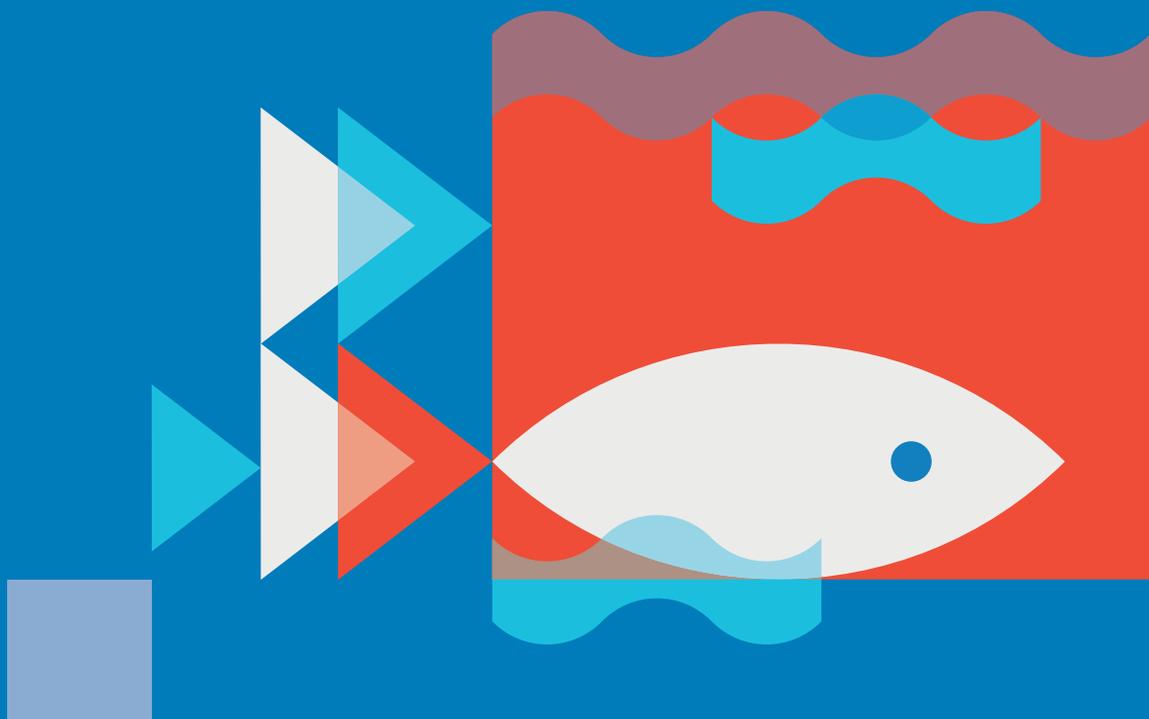
According to UNFCCC, the burning of fossil fuels is one of the main anthropogenic causes of increase in greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, which accelerates global climate change. At the same time, the fuel and energy complex is the leading sector of the Russian economy. This situation requires the adoption of targeted measures and the adjustment of economic policies with a view to a gradual transition to a sustainable development model with a low greenhouse gas emission. In this regard, the following factors are taken into account when implementing and further improving the state climate policy:

- development of a national greenhouse gas emission management system in accordance with the Paris Agreement mechanisms;
- development of a national system for monitoring and forecasting greenhouse gas emissions;
- increase of energy efficiency of economic sectors, infrastructure, residential and industrial buildings and facilities (including development of low and carbon-free energy sources, conversion of transport to gas and electricity);
- preservation and enhancement of the absorptive capacity of forests, soils and other natural carbon sinks;
- conducting applied and exploratory research of technologies and practices of low greenhouse gas emission development.

¹²⁰ Basic principles of the State Policy of the Russian Federation in the Arctic for the Period up to 2020 and Beyond [Approved by Order of the President of the Russian Federation No. Pr-1969 of 18 September 2008].

SDG 14

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



Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds (Target 14.1)

To prevent marine pollution, the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring (Rosgidromet) constantly monitors the hydrological and meteorological regime of the Russian seas. Thus, during the period from 2015 to 2018, 136 water bodies were covered by systematic observations of hydrobiological indicators at 207 stations on 324 sites of the State Observation Network for Surface Water (SON). Coastal marine ecosystems were monitored at 91 stations of five water bodies¹²¹.

During this period, the state of the observed coastal marine areas of Russia remained at a constant level; no major changes in the taxonomic composition and structure of communities, as well as degradation of the ecosystem state were detected. However, it is worth noticing that Arctic expeditions record the migration of commercially exploited species and changes in fishing areas in the Arctic Ocean (associated with climate change). The emergence of commercially exploited fish species in the Chukchi Sea and the Laptev Sea is especially important.

At present, the current Russian legislation sets out special and stricter requirements towards the environmental safety of oil and gas production on the continental shelf, due to the special value and vulnerability of coastal and marine ecosystems¹²².

Case Study

Lukoil PJSC

Lukoil PJSC is one of the companies that have prioritized environmental protection when working in offshore areas¹²³. The company's standards of complying with requirements for the zero discharge principle in marine projects became the basis for HELCOM (Helsinki Commission) recommendations for countries operating on the Baltic Sea shelf.

¹²¹ The Baltic Sea (Eastern part of the Gulf of Finland, Vyborg Bay, Koporye Bay, Luga Bay and Neva Bay), the Laptev Sea (Neelov Bay), the Sea of Japan (Amur, Ussury and Nakhodka bays, Zolotoy Rog, Diomid, Nakhodka, Wrangel and Kozmino bays, the Eastern Bosphorus strait), the Sea of Azov (the Kuban and the Don deltas), the Black Sea (the "Bolshoi Utrish" Reserve).

¹²² About 10% of the extraction licenses issued to date in the Russian Federation are related to offshore operations: subsoil areas in the Barents, the Kara, the Pechora, the Black, the Chukchi and the Okhotsk Seas, as well as the Laptev Sea (research under the project of UNDP/GEF – Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia " Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Russia's Energy Sector Policies and Operations ", 2014).

¹²³ The Company is steadily complying with the principle of zero discharge, which means a total ban on the disposal of all types of industrial and household waste into the marine environment. After collection and sorting all waste is transported ashore for recycling. The principle of zero discharge is observed both during exploratory and production drilling and at the stage of commercial hydrocarbon extraction.

Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience (Target 14.2)

There has been a significant increase in the diversity of fish species of coastal marine waters between 2015 and 2018 (from 400 species in 2015 to 1,500 species in 2018).

On August 30, 2019, the Russian Federation approved Strategy for the Development of Marine Activities 2030, which is aimed, inter alia, at the development and preservation of the resources of the World Ocean; at protection of the environmental safety of the marine environment and the restoration of marine ecosystems, monitoring of the natural environment state and implementation of integrated measures to prevent and eliminate the consequences of marine pollution.

Case Study

Saint Petersburg Initiative

Saint Petersburg Initiative, an international public-private partnership project, is one of the joint projects of private sector and government that is worth mentioning. The aim of this initiative is to [bring together](#) all groups (government, private sector, civil society) to shape measures to preserve the ecosystem of the Baltic Sea. The efficiency of such cooperation [was distinguished](#) at the 39th Session of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM) in 2018.

In order to combine the efforts of government and private sector to reduce negative impacts and conserve biodiversity, a specialized working group “Business and Biodiversity” was established under the auspices of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation in May 2019. During the working group meetings, inter alia, business representatives share their experiences in implementing projects aimed at protection and sustainability of marine ecosystems.

Case Study

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd. [is implementing](#) a programme to protect the population of marine mammals, primarily gray whales, in the area of its operations. Among the measures envisaged by the programme are the following: shift of the route of marine pipelines, prevention of water pollution, establishment of navigation corridors, limiting the speed of ships and the height of helicopter flights, determination and control of safe distances between ships and marine mammals. Furthermore, the presence of an observer for marine mammals is foreseen on all vessels near the gray whales locations.

Effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices (Targets 14.4, 14.7)

Russia has approved the National Action Plan to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing of aquatic bioresources¹²⁴. The Russian Federation is a party to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the North-East Atlantic Fisheries, under which the contracting parties have established and are operating the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC). Its purpose, inter alia, is to prevent unregulated and unreported harvesting of biological resources through the port control of foreign vessels. The same procedure covers cooperation in the control area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NAFO). The territorial Administration for the Barents and the White Sea of Federal Agency for Fishery has the authority to implement the state port control scheme.

One of the mechanisms for prevention of illegal harvesting of marine biological resources is the conclusion of intergovernmental agreements to combat illegal fishing by introducing certification for harvesting of aquatic biological resources and products made of them. In particular, Russia has made such agreements with China, the Republic of Korea and Japan. In order to support environmentally sustainable fisheries, the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Voluntary Certification, a leading global standard confirming environmentally balanced and sustainable wild fish harvesting, [is being actively promoted](#).

Case Study

Pollock Catchers Association NPO

Pollock Catchers Association has prepared MSC certification applications for pollock harvesting in [three areas](#) of the Far East fishing basin: The Okhotsk Sea, the western part of the Bering Sea (east of 174 degrees), Navarinskiy district.

Arkhangelsk Trawl Fleet JSC, Vityaz-Avto, Delta

Starting from 2014, Arkhangelsk Trawl Fleet JSC, one of the largest enterprises in the fishing industry of the Pomorye region, [is implementing](#) the process of comprehensive Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) evaluation of cod and haddock harvesting. In 2016, the MSC certificate was issued to Russian companies Vityaz-Auto and Delta, which harvest salmons in Western Kamchatka.

Longline Fishery Association

Longline Fishery Association, as well as other companies and non-profit organizations, [is getting ready](#) for the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification of bottom longline fisheries for pacific cod and pacific halibut.

¹²⁴ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 2534-r of 25 December 2013.

Conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law (Target 14.5)

One of the tools for implementing biodiversity conservation programmes is creation of SPNAs. Some of them are located in the Arctic zone. During the period from 2015 to 2018, the sea area of SPNAs of federal importance increased by 73% (from 10.9 mln hectares [at the beginning of 2016](#) to 18.9 mln hectares in [2018](#), and the SPNAs of regional importance accounted for additional 0.6 mln hectares in 2018).

Also, according to the Water Code of the Russian Federation, territories adjacent to the coastline of seas, rivers, streams, canals, lakes and reservoirs are deemed to be designated water areas. They have a special conditions of commercial activities, including some restrictions. The width of the sea designated water areas is 500 meters from the maximum tide line. It is prohibited to place cemeteries and burial grounds, to use aviation for pest control measures, to use and park vehicles, to carry out construction and reconstruction of gas stations, fuel depots and vehicle maintenance stations within the boundaries of water designated areas.

Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology (Target 14.a)

It is mainly marine science institutes subordinated to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation in Russia that work on boosting scientific knowledge in the field of the World Ocean research. The institutes carry out basic research in coastal conditions and marine expeditionary research on research vessels (R/V). According to the Institute of Oceanology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the period from 2015 to 2019 witnessed more than fourfold increase in financing of sea expeditions on R/Vs of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, making it from 342 mln rubles to 1,601 mln rubles.

“Science” National Project provides for retrofitting of a range of R/Vs and construction of two new R/Vs with modern technical equipment. Thus, Russian scientists will be able to obtain new information on resources, the state of ecosystems, and processes in the seas and oceans, thereby increasing the amount of scientific knowledge.

Specialized research of the World Ocean and seas of Russia is also carried out by institutes of the Russian Academy of Sciences, institutes of Federal Agency for Fishery (bioresources) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation (solid minerals and hydrocarbons). A considerable amount of monitoring research on the state of the marine environment is carried out by Rosgidromet’s research institutes and marine science institutions.

Case Study

Contribution of private sector to boosting scientific knowledge, increasing research and sharing marine technologies

Since 2012, Rosneft Oil Company PJSC [has been carrying out](#) comprehensive research expeditions at the licensed plots of the company in the Arctic. The company has conducted 18 expeditions during the last 6 years. The research is carried out in 5 seas of the Arctic, with special attention paid to the study of ice conditions. Environmental atlases are prepared based on the results of studies conducted by the company (e.g. the atlas of the Kara Sea, the Laptev Sea). There were also publications devoted to the results of mammals study, such as “Marine Mammals of the Russian Arctic and the Far East”.

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

Fishing for the purpose of ensuring the traditional lifestyle and carrying out traditional economic activities of small indigenous minorities of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation is subject to separate regulation. Such fishing requires neither a special area, nor a special permit. However, this does not apply to harvesting rare and endangered aquatic bioresources.

Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law (Target 14.c)

There are about 40 fish-breeding farms in Russia performing the state task of reproduction of marine bioresources. In 2015–2018, the output of juvenile aquatic biological resources into fish-breeding farms increased by 7.5% (to 9.65 bln), and aquaculture fish seeds farming increased by 26% (to 31.49 thousand tons).

Looking forward

Russia’s objectives under SDG 14 are to prevent bottom trawling fishing, which [could lead](#) to a decline in the reproduction rate of exploited aquatic bioresources and a decrease in the productivity of marine biota in general.

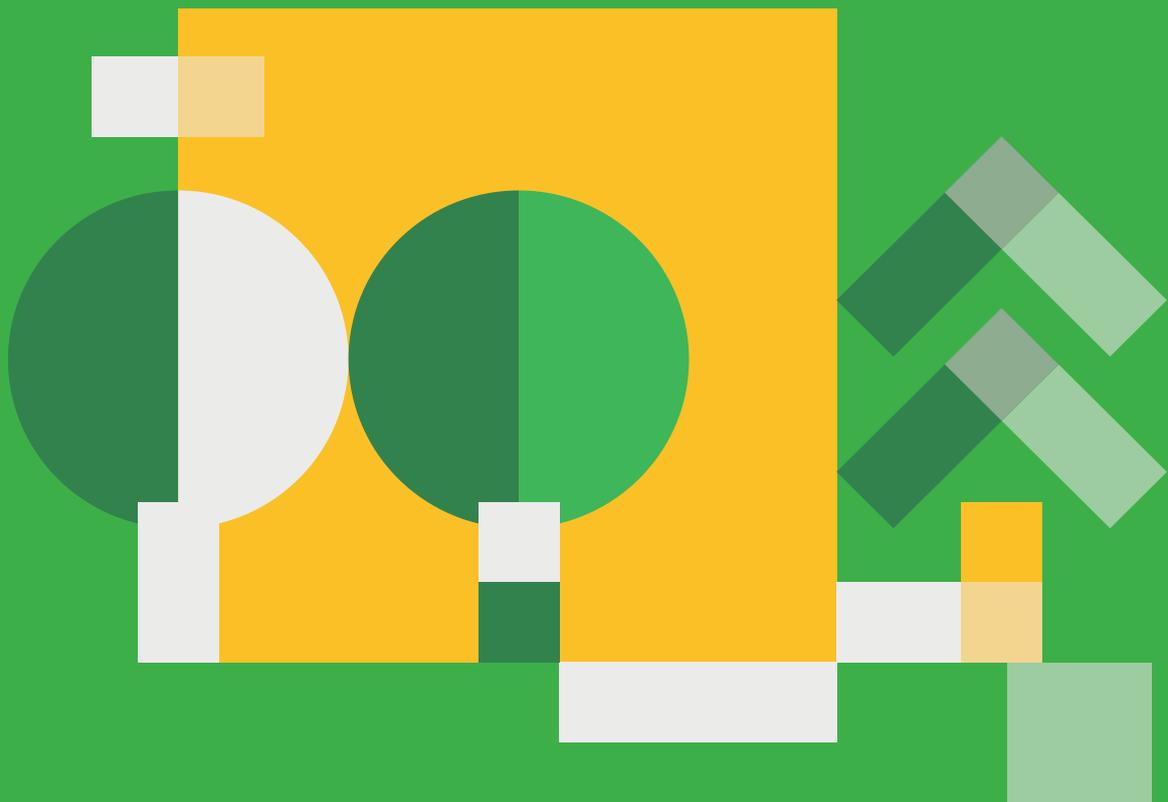
Case Study

Contribution of private sector and NPOs to minimizing damage to marine ecosystems from trawling fishing for cod and haddock in the Barents Sea

WWF of Russia, together with representatives of key fishing companies in the Barents Sea region (Fishing Industry Union of the North NPO, Norebo Group, F.E.S.T. Group of Companies, and Archangelsk Trawl Fleet JSC) are working to reduce the negative impact of trawl fishing on bottom ecosystems. The package of measures includes, inter alia, the development of an accurate map of the most vulnerable bottom communities and particularly valuable areas of the seabed from the point of conservation especially valuable, from an environmental point of view, areas of the seabed, as well as the upgrading of the bottom trawls (testing of new models of fishing gear such as the “sparing trawl”).

SDG 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



Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services in particular forests (Targets 15.1, 15.2)

Water ecosystems

Cubic meters of river runoff per year per citizen of Russia, i.e. approximately 5.5 times more than the world average¹²⁵. However, the main disadvantage of Russian water resources is their uneven distribution in the country, which does not coincide with the real needs for fresh water. This was already mentioned in the section on SDG 6. Such Federal Projects as “Clean water”, “Volga recovery”, “Preservation of unique water objects” of “Environment” National Project are aimed at ensuring the sustainability of water security indicators.

Russia’s special responsibility towards the world community is to fulfill the task of preserving such world natural heritage site as Lake Baikal. The solution to this task is also included in “Preservation of Lake Baikal” Federal Project of “Environment” National Project. In 2013, Baikal Pulp and Paper Mill, which had a negative impact on the Baikal ecosystem, ceased its operations. Reclamation of its territory under “Environment” National Project began in 2019.

Forests

The current forest area is 815.31 mln hectares (calculated using the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020’ methodology). According to Rosreestr (the Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography) the area of land within forestry and forest parks increased from 51.21% to 53% over the period of 2015–2018.

The main challenges in the forest sector are climate change and, to a large extent, the increasing complexity of the forest fire and forest pathology environment associated with its consequences, changes in the species composition of forests, a decline in the popularity of forest professions among youth and an increase in anthropogenic impact on forests in densely populated areas. Measures to overcome these problems are provided in the following state strategic planning documents: the State Programme “Development of Forestry”, Strategy for Development of the Forest Sector of the Russian Federation 2030 and “Forest Conservation” Federal Project of “Environment” National Project.

As a result, during the period 2015–2019, the area of forests where reproductive activities are carried out [has increased](#) by 20%. According to Rosleskhoz (the Federal Forestry Agency), the ratio of the area of reforestation and afforestation to the area of felled and lost forests in 2019 was 80.6% (an increase by 30% from 2015); the share of protective forests increased, getting the area of more than 283 mln hectares in 2018; the area of forests included in the SPNA system has increased; the share of forests with a long-term management plan hit 100%, new forest seed centers were established and are functioning in the regions, nature protection campaigns became nation-wide and tree planting is carried out under their framework, the popularity of internal ecological and educational tourism is growing, which is the evidence of the general increase in the level of ecological rights awareness in the civil society.

¹²⁵ [State report](#) “On the status and use of water resources of the Russian Federation in 2017”.

Case Study

Participation of civil society in afforestation

The Federal Forestry Agency organizes volunteer campaigns for forest restoration twice a year: these are the spring campaign “Russian Forest Planting Day” and the autumn campaign “Live, forest!”. A total of 21 mln people took part in the campaigns from 2011 to June 2019, with 405 mln trees planted.

In addition, Russia has developed certification of forest users. Certification under the scheme of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) can be mentioned as one of the examples. [As of March 1, 2020](#), 52.64 mln hectares of forests were certified in Russia. As of 29 February 2020 there were 935 valid FSC certificates, and the number of companies holding valid certificates hit 1,196.

Specially protected natural areas

Traditional and most effective form of preserving biological and landscape diversity, various types of reference and unique ecosystems and species of animals and plants in the Russian Federation is the creation and maintenance of SPNAs. In 2018, there were about 12 thousand SPNAs of federal, regional and local importance in Russia; their total area amounted to 237.7 mln hectares (including sea areas)¹²⁶ (as of the beginning of 2016, their area was 207.5 mln hectares, with their number reaching 13 thousand).

SPNAs are in demand and actively visited by citizens of Russia and foreign countries. The system of Russian SPNAs has international importance: 24 federal and 17 regional protected reservations are included into 12 World Heritage sites (11 natural and 1 cultural) under the jurisdiction of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; 35 Russian wetlands (WL) are included in the list of WL of International Importance of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands as they are important mainly as waterfowl habitat, 4 reservations have diplomas of the Council of Europe, 5 reservations and 1 national park are among 6 International trans-border SPNAs¹²⁷.

UNESCO’s International Programme “Man and the Biosphere” (MAB) has been successfully developing in Russia since 1974. Today there are [46 biosphere reserves](#) in Russia, including 65 SPNAs¹²⁸, whose task is to develop and implement regionally adapted models of sustainable development. Russia ranks world’s second as per number of biosphere reserves¹²⁹.

¹²⁶ [State report](#) “On the status and protection of the environment of the Russian Federation in 2018”.

¹²⁷ [State report](#) “On the status and protection of the environment of the Russian Federation in 2018”.

¹²⁸ In 2019 UNESCO resolved to include another biosphere reserve from Russia, the Eltonian Biosphere Reserve based in the Eltonian Nature Park (the Volgograd region).

¹²⁹ [State report](#) “On the status and protection of the environment of the Russian Federation in 2018”.

Restore degraded land and soils (Target 15.3)

A distinctive feature of Russia is the diversity of causes and processes of land degradation and the unevenness of their manifestation in different regions, due to different natural conditions and the unevenness of anthropogenic impact. The main negative processes leading to land degradation, desertification of soil and vegetation cover are water and wind erosion, flooding and swamping, waterlogging, salinization and alkalinization. The total share of degraded lands of different categories (agricultural, forest, industrial lands, etc.) in 2018 was 6.1% of the total land area of the country¹³⁰.

Among measures aimed at protection and rational use of land resources taken by Russia is work on restoration and rehabilitation of degraded and disturbed lands. The measures for the protection and sustainable use of land are carried out, inter alia, through national strategies. The main objectives of Environmental Security Strategy of the Russian Federation 2025¹³¹ include elimination of accumulated environmental damage and prevention of land and soil degradation. Strategy of sustainable development of rural areas of the Russian Federation 2030¹³² sets out the task of preserving and improving the available land. Strategy for the Development of the Forest Complex of the Russian Federation 2020¹³³ establishes that, in order to prevent desertification and land erosion processes, it is necessary to ensure that protective forest plantations (anti-erosion, field protection, plantations on arid pastures and sands, on the banks of small rivers and around settlements) are grown in the south-east of European Russia, the North Caucasus, the Southern Urals, the Volga region and Western Siberia.

Ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems (Target 15.4)

According to data for 2018, mountain areas cover about 40% of the Russian Federation. The largest mountain systems are located in the Eastern Siberia and the Far East, where they account for over 60% of the area, as well as in the south and east of the European part (Caucasus, Urals)¹³⁴. SPNAs of federal level totally cover mountain area of about 230 thousand km² (about 3% of the mountain territory of Russia)¹³⁵.

The largest area of SPNAs is intrinsic to Kamchatka (about 20% of the total area of the mountains), the Northwest Caucasus (about 14%) and the Middle Urals (about 10%). High biodiversity SPNAs in the South Siberian, Baikal and Transbaikalian mountains cover about 5% of the total area of the mountain systems¹³⁶.

¹³⁰ [Report](#) of the Russian Federation to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification for 2018.

¹³¹ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 176 of 19 April 2017.

¹³² Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 151-r of 2 February 2015.

¹³³ Executive Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No. 1989-r of 20 September 2018.

¹³⁴ ["Biomes of Russia"](#) map, nature maps for higher school series. M. 1: 7 500 000. / G. N. Ogureeva, N. B. Leonova, L. G. Emelianova et al. World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Moscow, 2018.

¹³⁵ Calculated according to data from SPNAs' web-sites.

¹³⁶ Calculated according to data from SPNAs' web-sites.

Halt the loss of biodiversity (Target 15.5)

As of the end of 2017, there were 1,089 rare species of various statuses of rarity registered in the Russian Federation, including 676 species of plants and fungi and 413 species of animals¹³⁷.

A quite important strategic document on biodiversity conservation is Strategy for the Conservation of Rare and Endangered Species of Animals, Plants and Fungi in the Russian Federation 2030. On 2 April 2020, the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation approved the orders of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation on approval of the List of wildlife listed in the Red Book of the Russian Federation¹³⁸ and the order of keeping the Red Book. The previous version of the Red Book of the Russian Federation dates back to 1997. For the first time the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation has listed 29 new bird species and 14 mammals in the Red Book of the Russian Federation.

“Environment” National Project also provides for the formation of a legal and regulatory framework for the conservation and reintroduction of rare and endangered species, including the approval of the List of Rare and Endangered Objects of Wild Fauna, the development and approval of a conservation strategy and programmes for the restoration and reintroduction of priority species.

Case Study

Efforts of Russian private sector at biodiversity conservation and research¹³⁹

RusHydro Group

RusHydro Group implements measures aimed at protection of ecosystems and natural habitats of animals, preservation of rare and endangered species of animals and birds, as well as works to care for the environment among citizens. Besides, the Company conducts scientific research and supports the material and technical base of specially protected natural areas.

¹³⁷ [State report](#) “On the Status and Protection of the Environment of the Russian Federation in 2018”.

¹³⁸ Red Book of the Russian Federation is the official document containing codified data regarding state and proliferation of rare and endangered species (subspecies, populations) of wildlife species and growing wild plants and mushrooms (biodiversity), living (growing) on the territory of the Russian Federation, on its continental shelf and its Exclusive Economic Zone, as well as the necessary measures for their protection and reproduction.

¹³⁹ Based on the data provided by the directly reviewed companies, as well as on the materials presented in the RSPP’s [Compendium](#) “Russian Businesses and Sustainable Development Goals”.

Case Study

En+ Group IPJSC

En+ Group IPJSC implements a long-term comprehensive programme for the preservation of the unique natural complex of Lake Baikal, which includes environmental monitoring, aimed at identifying and further studying threats to the lake's ecosystem, including its biodiversity. Local citizens are actively involved in these activities. They are engaged in garbage collection, improvement and promotion of ecotourism infrastructure in the coastal zone of Lake Baikal, as well as educational activities that propagate care for the environment and biodiversity conservation. The project of flow forecasting to Baikal based on big data and machine training became a new direction of work.

Severstal PJSC

Severstal PJSC, which integrates many Russian steel mills, teamed up with Darwin State Nature Reserve, to implement a programme to study the biodiversity of bird fauna in the vicinity of Cherepovets, one of the key sites for its business. The focus is on the study and conservation of populations of rare and endangered bird species, as well as environmental education of Cherepovets' citizens.

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.

[Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.](#) was one of the first companies in Russia to create and implement a comprehensive Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) in 2008. The plan includes activities aimed at preventing and reducing man-made impacts on ecologically sensitive habitats and protected species, restoring natural ecosystems and monitoring their current state. In 2017–2019, additional studies and assessment of critical habitats were carried out and the company's BSAP was updated in accordance with the requirements of the Biodiversity Standard (PS6) of International Finance Corporation (IFC, 2012).

Rosneft Oil Company PJSC

Rosneft Oil Company PJSC aims to ensure measures for protection of ecosystems and biodiversity, especially in protected and environmentally sensitive areas. The company has set a strategic goal of continuous reduction of the area of accumulated contaminated land and introduced a new Polluted Land Recultivation Standard. The Company implements biodiversity conservation projects in the regions where it operates: projects "Evenki Deer", "Geese of Evenkyia", "Siberian Sable" in Krasnoyarsk region, monitoring for birds' headcount in the Upper Dvuobje wetlands of the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area – Yugra, replenishment of fish resources in rivers and reservoirs in the north of the European part of Russia, in Western and Eastern Siberia. It also supports ANO "AMUR TIGER Center" programmes for study and conservation of Amur tiger populations in the Primorsky and the Khabarovsk regions.

Take urgent action to end poaching (Target 15.7)

According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation, the area of hunting lands of the Russian Federation in 2017 was about 1.6 bln hectares or 93% of the territory of the country. The main measures for preservation of hunting resources and the habitat are implemented by the regions of the Russian Federation. Long-term Schemes of location, use and protection of hunting lands are being developed in order to plan hunting activities of the regions of the Russian Federation. As of the end of 2017, such Schemes had been developed in 77 regions of the Russian Federation¹⁴⁰.

With regard to combating poaching, the Russian legislation provides for strict penalties for illegal extraction, maintenance, purchase, storage, transportation, transfer and sale of especially valuable wild animals belonging to species listed in the Red Book of Russia and / or protected by international treaties of the Russian Federation. In 2018, criminal liability was introduced for illegal purchasing or sale on the Internet or through the mass media of especially valuable wild animals and aquatic biological resources belonging to species listed in the Red Book of the Russian Federation and/or protected by international treaties of the Russian Federation, their parts and derivatives (derivatives)¹⁴¹.

In addition, Russia is taking a full range of measures to ensure that the obligations arising from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) are fulfilled. Animals and plants, their parts and derivatives, belonging to more than 33 thousand species, included in CITES Schedules, are transported across the state border only if there are special permits issued by the authorized Administrative body of CITES. The customs authorities of Russia prevent actions violating the Convention.

Introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species (Target 15.8)

The problem of invasive species in the Russian Federation poses the greatest threat to the biodiversity of regions with endemic, relict and endangered species, which include, in particular, the Caucasus and, to a great extent, the animal life of the Lake Baikal. A specific aspect is the green areas of large cities, clogged with invasive plant species, which displace local species, primarily rare and small, hinder the normal functioning and development of natural communities causing their degradation.

Russia complies with its international obligations to monitor and control alien species in its territory according to the Convention on Biological Diversity [1992]. Much attention is paid to the study of biological invasions. In particular, "Alien Species in Russia" [database](#) has been created. The data provided by the Russian Federation is included in the main international databases on biodiversity and alien species: EASIN, GBIF, GRIIS and EPPO.

¹⁴⁰ [State report](#) "On the Status and Protection of the Environment of the Russian Federation in 2018".

¹⁴¹ Federal Law No. 157-FZ of 27 June 2018.

Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts (Target 15.9)

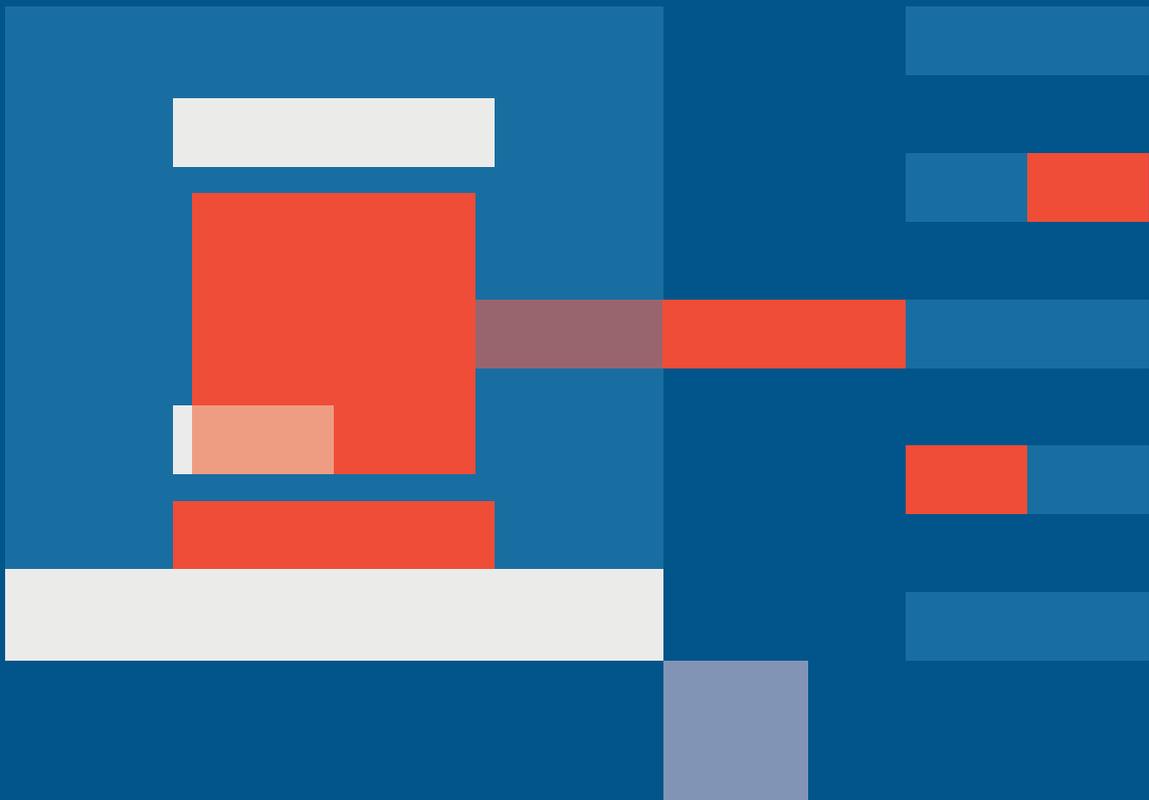
As of 2018, the preliminary specific monetary value of the ecosystem services of natural terrestrial landscapes in Russia may reach USD 28–240 per 1 hectare per year depending on the landscape. These indicators are significantly higher in regions where the share of bioresources development by local communities is high, the rate of tourism and recreational activities is growing and sustainable use of biodiversity resources is organized. For example, in some areas of Kamchatka, in the Volga Delta, in the Western Caucasus, and in the Moscow region, the potential value that can be obtained from an ecosystem using the full range of services varies from USD 350–400 to USD 1,500–2,000 per hectare annually (as of 2018). These indicators are increasing alongside with the integration of ecosystem services into regional socio-economic development.

Looking forward

Russia's recent policy in the area of environmental protection is aimed at the development of rational use of natural resources and preservation of terrestrial ecosystems. The policy of improving forest management is being conducted in the sphere of forest conservation. It includes optimizing the state forest management service and streamlining forestry relations. An important role in the conservation of forest resources belongs to timber industry enterprises, which are implementing models of responsible forest management in their activities. For the purpose of preservation of inland water ecosystems, activities are being carried out to clean up water areas, as well as to restore and preserve water biological resources and to stimulate aquaculture development. As to the protection of objects of land wildlife Russia applies strict sanctions to illegal hunting, housing and turnover of especially valuable species of animals.

SDG 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



Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere (Target 16.1)

According to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, no one shall be subject to torture, violence or other severe or humiliating treatment or punishment.

Between 2015 and 2018 the total number of victims of criminal offences dropped by 21.4%, from 1,699.1 thousand people to 1,335.2 thousand people, with a higher rate of decline for women than for men (24.2% versus 18.9%). Whereby during the period from 2015 to 2018 the total number of those who died as a result of criminal offences decreased by 19.8% and those who suffered serious health injuries decreased by 11.2% out of the whole volume of victims.

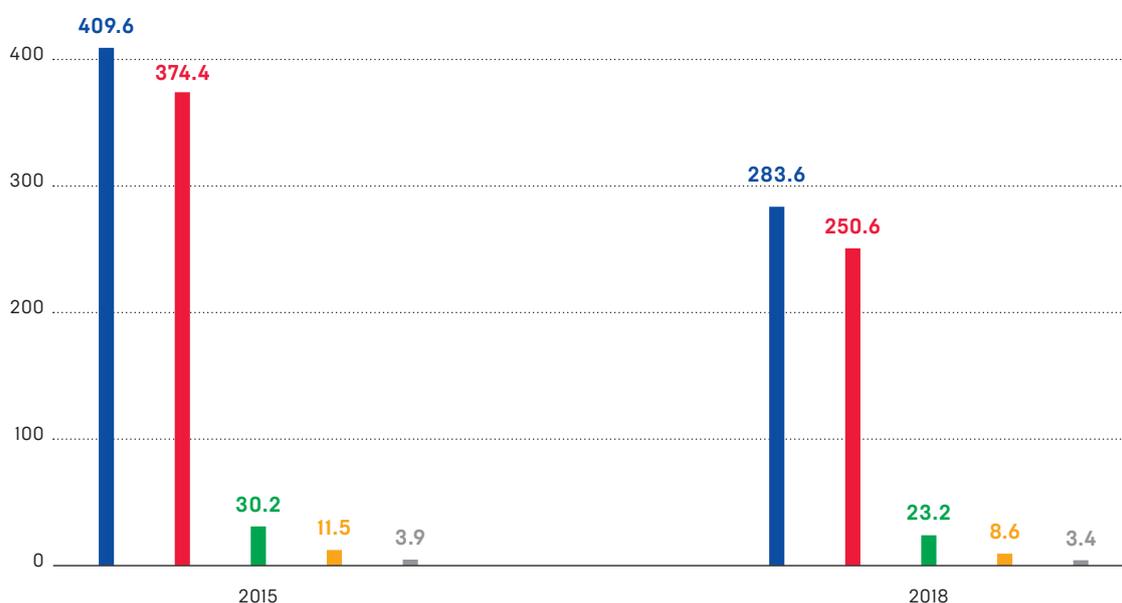
Between 2015 and 2018, the number of crimes associated with violent acts generally decreased by 33.1% in Russia. The number of registered crimes against the person has decreased by 1.4-fold.

There has been a steady decline in the number of murders and attempted murders (to 8,600), intentional infliction of serious harm to health (to 23,200) and attempted rapes (to 3,400) [Figure 24].

FIGURE 24. DYNAMICS OF THE NUMBER OF CRIMES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation / thousand cases

- Registered crimes against the person
- Crimes associated with violent acts
- Intentional infliction of serious harm to health
- Murders and attempted murders
- Attempted rapes



End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children (Target 16.2)

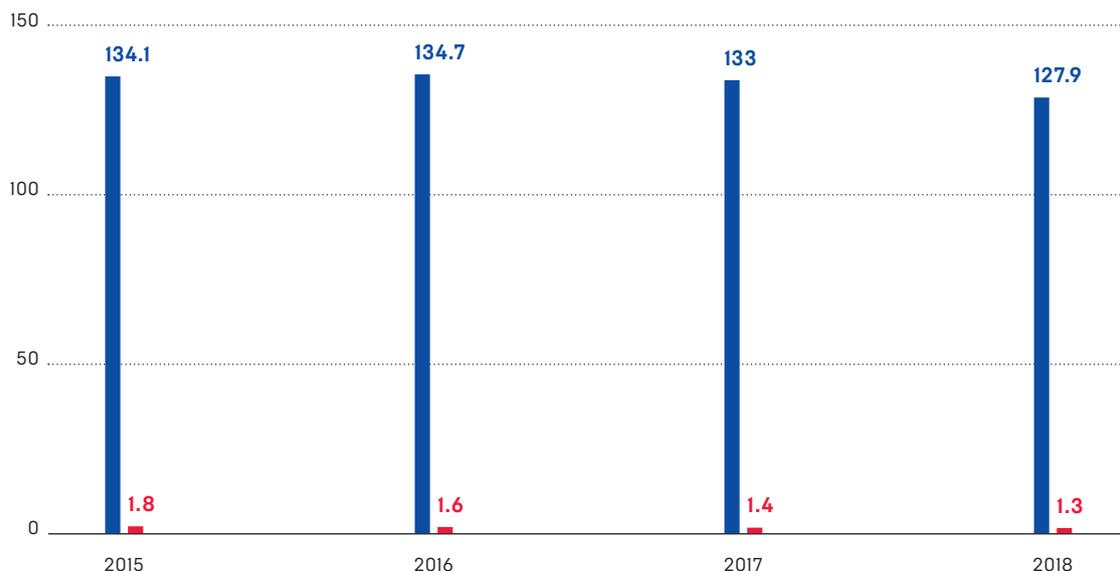
During 2015–2018 the number of crimes involving violent acts against juveniles almost halved (from 50,700 to 29,000). In 2018, the officers of the internal affairs agencies prevented 1,300 cases of failure to fulfill obligations for the upbringing of children. The internal affairs agencies supervise 127,900 parents (or other legal representatives) of children who fail to fulfil their obligations for the upbringing, educating and/or support of children and/or who have negative influence on their behavior or abuse them (Figure 25).

However, the Federal Law establishes¹⁴² the main tasks and powers of the Presidential Commissioner for Children’s Rights, as well as those of the Commissioners for Children’s Rights in the regions of the Russian Federation. By early 2015, children’s ombudspersons were already [working](#) in all regions of Russia.

FIGURE 25. DYNAMICS OF INDICATORS RELATED TO THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation / thousand units

- Number of parents (or other legal representatives) of children who fail to fulfil their obligations for the upbringing, educating and/or support of children and/or who have negative influence on their behavior or abuse them
- Number of cases of failure to fulfill obligations for the upbringing of children



¹⁴² Federal Law No. 501-FZ of 27 December 2018 “On Commissioners for the Rights of the Child in the Russian Federation”.

Case Study

National Foundation for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NFPCC) NPO

The mission of the National Foundation for the Prevention Cruelty to Children, a Russian non-profit organization, [is to protect children's rights](#) through improving the quality of assistance to children and families and ensuring conditions for normal development for every child.

The projects implemented include the establishment of the Russian Association of Children's Helplines, as well as four interregional best practices centers and the provision of methodological support to more than 400 socially oriented non-profit organizations. In addition, the Foundation has established the National Institute for Child Protection.

Promote the rule of law (Target 16.3)

Under the Constitution of the Russian Federation the rights and freedoms of man and citizen shall be directly operative. They determine the essence, meaning and implementation of laws, the activities of the legislative and executive authorities, local self-government and shall be ensured by the administration of justice.

Everyone shall be guaranteed judicial protection of his rights and freedoms. Decisions and actions (or inaction) of bodies of state authority and local self-government, public associations and officials may be appealed against in court. Besides, in accordance with international agreements to which the Russian Federation is a party everyone shall have the right to appeal to international bodies for the protection of human rights and freedoms, if all the existing internal state means of legal protection have been exhausted.

In order to improve the legal system of the Russian Federation, as well as to promote the supremacy of law at the national and international levels, a unified system of law enforcement monitoring has been established. It provides for the analysis and study of legislation and law enforcement practice by public authorities¹⁴³. The functions of coordinating law enforcement monitoring in the Russian Federation carried out by federal executive bodies and its methodological support [are vested](#) in the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. Representatives of civil society organizations and the mass media are involved in the process of law enforcement monitoring.

¹⁴³ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 657 of 20 May 2011.

Significantly reduce illicit financial flows (Target 16.4)

As a result of the work of the Russian Federation's system to combat money laundering, suspicious financial flows have decreased by 33%. In 2015, the volume of doubtful financial transactions amounted to 28.1% of GDP (23.4 trln rubles), while in 2018 it made 16% of GDP (15.7 trln rubles) (Figure 26).

The main measures used in the Russian Federation to minimize international risks of money laundering and terrorist financing for the purpose of detecting, seizing, confiscating and extraditing criminal assets include cooperation through financial intelligence units, operational cooperation through law enforcement agencies, mutual legal assistance at the investigative and judicial stages, as well as other measures (conducting transactions, participating in international projects, etc.).

Within the framework of stage I of implementation of Strategy of Economic Security of the Russian Federation 2030¹⁴⁴ Rosfinmonitoring (the Federal Financial Monitoring Service) has developed a Concept of development of the national system of anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing.

The assessment of the effectiveness of measures adopted within the scope of Rosfinmonitoring was successfully completed in October 2019 at the plenary meeting of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). At the abovementioned FATF event in 2019, the delegation of the Russian Federation demonstrated the significant achievements of the national system for combating money laundering and financing of terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (AML/CFT/PWMD). According to Rosfinmonitoring, Russia is among the five countries whose AML/CFT system meets the requirements of the international community.

Substantially reduce corruption and bribery (Target 16.5)

According to data from law enforcement agencies, the number of recorded crimes of "bribery" category dropped by 40.8% between 2010 and 2018, from 12,000 cases in 2010 to 7,100 cases in 2018 (the maximum number of cases was observed in 2015 and amounted to 13,300).

The National Anti-Corruption Plan for 2018–2020 was approved in 2018¹⁴⁵. The events of the National Plan give special attention to activities aimed at detecting, suppressing and solving large and particularly large-scale crimes committed by organized groups.

In 2018, the officers of the internal affairs agencies of the Russian Federation prevented 23,400 corruption-related offences, including 5,400 that were deemed to have been of a large or particularly large scale or to have major damage. A total of 12,500 persons committed acts of corruption have been identified (Figure 27).

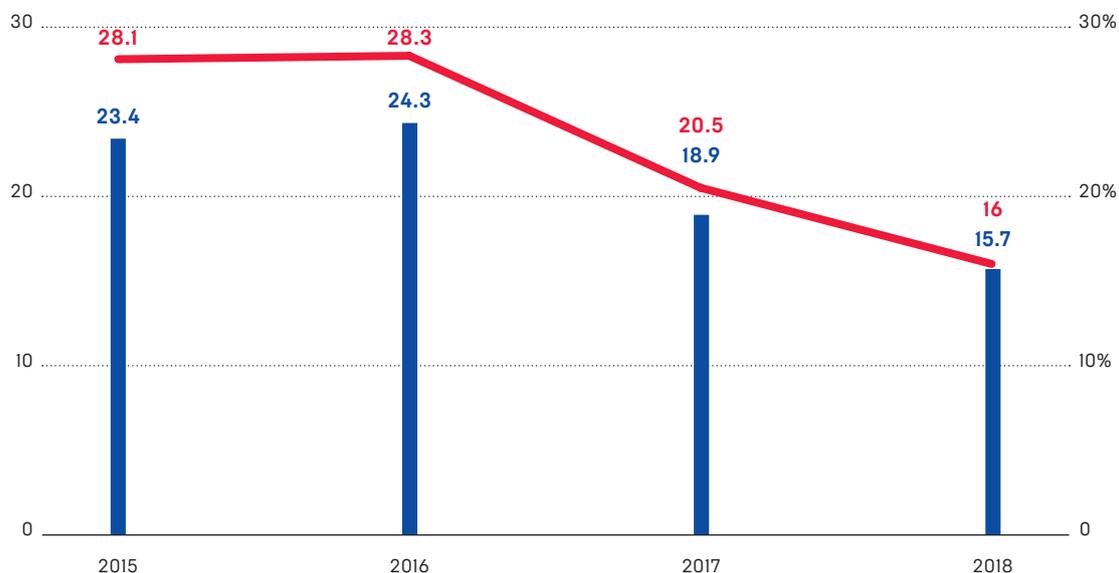
¹⁴⁴ Approved by the Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 208 of 13 May 2017.

¹⁴⁵ Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 378 of 29 June 2018.

FIGURE 26. VOLUME OF DOUBTFUL FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

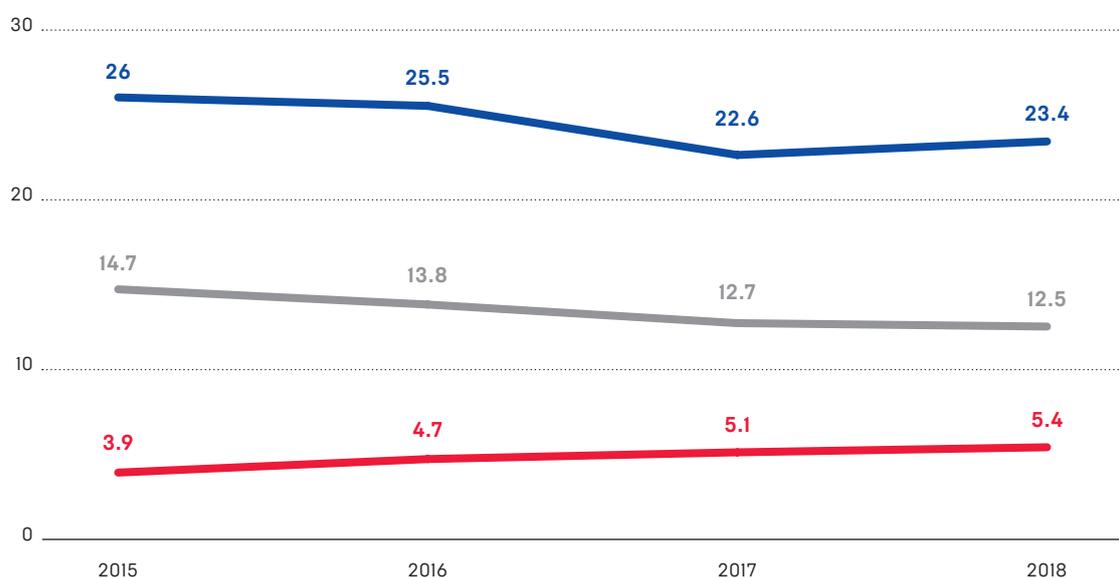
Rosfinmonitoring

- Volume of doubtful financial transactions, trln rubles
- Volume of doubtful financial transaction, % of GDP (right axis)

**FIGURE 27. DYNAMICS OF CORRUPTION INDICATORS**

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

- Number of prevented corruption crimes, thousand
- Those crimes that were deemed to have been of a large or particularly large scale or to have major damage (out of the total number of prevented corruption crimes), thousand
- Number of people committed corruption crimes, thousand people



Case Study

The Public Committee for Control over Corruption and Implementation of the President's Programme

The Public Committee for Control of Corruption and Implementation of the President's Programme [has been operating](#) since 2011 and acts as a voluntary association of citizens based on common interests and unity of purpose in combating corruption. One of the main tasks of the Public Committee is formation and implementation of anti-corruption policy, support for the activities of public associations and the media to form zero-tolerance for corruption. The Public Committee unifies, coordinates and defends the interests of active citizens, initiative public groups, entrepreneurs and organizations of the Russian Federation, and organizes interaction with federal, regional and local authorities.

The Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation also contributes to the implementation of SDG 16. One of the main tasks defined in Strategy for the Development of the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation 2024 is "to strengthen the culture of publicity and openness in public decision-making processes, as well as improve the accountability of authorities and encourage personal responsibility of senior officials in government agencies and organizations to the public for the achievement of goals and objectives".

The Russian Federation participates in international mechanisms for reviewing national legislation through the United Nations, the Council of Europe and OECD as per its compliance with international anti-corruption standards.

Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels (Target 16.6)

Russia has made significant progress in the development of its public service system in recent years. This was facilitated by the adoption of Federal Law No. 210-FZ of 27 July 2010 "On Organization and Provision of State and Municipal Services" and other policy documents which set out the main directions for improvement of public services. The latter include the development and adoption of administrative regulations of public authorities and local self-government, organization of interdepartmental electronic interaction, conversion of services into electronic form, introduction of a system for assessing the quality of public services.

A network of multifunctional centers (MFC) “My Documents” was formed as a single window of interaction between citizens and authorities for receiving public services. Currently, it has 13 thousand public service offices with 47,000 counters for interaction with applicants and provides the most demanded services at federal, regional and municipal levels. Over 350 thousand people apply to MFC daily. In 2019, “My Documents” centers entered the top 5 projects of the international contest “WSIS Prizes”, held annually under the auspices of the UN, and were selected as the WSIS 2019 champion in the “E-government” category.

In addition, the country has built a system of feedback on the quality of public services called “Your Control” system. Every citizen can evaluate the quality of services provided in any center “My Documents” or online. Evaluations and feedback collected are taken into account in improving service delivery processes, as well as in assessing the performance of managers and staff of departments and centers “My Documents”. To date, more than 100 mln services have been evaluated with the help of this resource, and the authorities have received about a million reviews. “Your Control” project, implemented by the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, became a finalist of the “WSIS prizes 2020” contest and was included in the top-5 projects in the “E-government” category.

These measures helped to form a new system of interaction with applicants in Russia, which provides a high level of service comparable to the best practices in commercial structures. This was reflected in citizens’ assessments: according to the “Your Control” system, the population is 96.6% satisfied with the quality of public services.

Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making (Target 16.7)

Interaction of public authorities with citizens and civil society institutions at the federal level in order to identify and consider their opinions in the decision-making process is ensured, inter alia, through the functioning of the Internet resource “Russian Public Initiative”¹⁴⁶.

In addition, the [Civic Chamber](#) of the Russian Federation is a mechanism for interaction between citizens and government bodies and local authorities for considering the needs of citizens, protecting their rights and freedoms in the formulation and implementation of government policy, and exercising public control over the activities of government bodies. Public chambers are also established at the regional level.

¹⁴⁶ Established in accordance with Decree of the President of the Russian Federation No. 183 of 4 March 2013 “On consideration of public initiatives sent by citizens of the Russian Federation using the Internet resource “Russian Public Initiative”.

Case Study

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.

Since its establishment Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd. has been cooperating with the low-numbered indigenous peoples of the North of the Sakhalin region. In 2010, the company was the first in the world [to apply the principle of free, prior and informed consent \(FPIC\)](#) contained in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Sakhalin experience has been repeatedly discussed at international forums, including the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Corporate Forum on Sustainable Development in Rio +20, the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, events of the International Finance Corporation and the World Bank, and is recognized as a best practice at the federal and international levels.

Since 2010, the Russian Federation has had an institute for the regulatory impact assessing (RIA) of draft regulatory legal acts. RIA is an analysis of draft regulatory legal acts to identify possible risks, as well as unreasonable expenses of individuals and legal entities in the sphere of entrepreneurial activity and budgets of the budgetary system of the Russian Federation. RIA is one of the central elements of the “smart” control system. During 10 years of its existence the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation has prepared more than 9,500 assessments of regulatory impact at the federal level. Besides, RIA has also been introduced at the regional level: presently, this procedure is systematically implemented in all regions of the Russian Federation.

Participation in public discussions of draft acts is made possible on the Federal Portal of draft regulatory legal acts (regulation.gov.ru). This platform allows concerned parties to learn about legislative initiatives, discuss drafts of the legal acts and propose ideas for their improvement, assess the effectiveness of the laws under consideration and the degree of their impact on private sector, as well as to participate in independent anti-corruption expertise.

Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms (Target 16.10)

According to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, everyone shall be guaranteed the freedom of ideas and speech. No one may be forced to express his views and convictions or to reject them. At the same time, everyone shall have the right to freely look for, receive, transmit, produce and distribute information by any legal way. The freedom of mass communication shall be guaranteed. Censorship shall be banned. The mass media (including TV channels) carry out their activities on the basis of professional independence¹⁴⁷.

At the same time, Russia imposed a ban on the publication of unreliable information of public importance¹⁴⁸. It is prohibited to disseminate on the Internet information that poses “a threat of harm to the life or health of citizens, property, a threat of mass violation of order and public safety, a threat of interfering with the functioning or interruption of life support facilities, transport or social infrastructure, credit organizations, energy, industry or communications facilities”. The provided sanctions provide for the blocking of resources with such information (sites, social network accounts, etc.), as well as a system of fines for individuals and legal entities.

Protection of human and civil rights and freedoms in the processing of personal data, including the protection of the rights to privacy, personal and family secrets, is ensured by Federal Law¹⁴⁹. The Federal Law governs the relations connected with processing of the personal data by state structures, municipal bodies, legal entities and individuals with means of automation, including that in information and telecommunication networks, or without such means.

Building capacity at all levels to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime (Target 16.a)

In order to prevent money laundering and terrorism financing, Rosfinmonitoring cooperates and maintains information exchange with competent authorities of a number of states and international organizations, including FATF, the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL), The Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) and other regional groups and international structures.

Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development (Target 16.b)

According to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, a man, his rights and freedoms are the supreme value. The recognition, observance and protection of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen shall be the obligation of the state. In the Russian Federation recognition and guarantees shall be provided for the rights and freedoms of man and citizen according to the universally recognized principles and norms of international law and according to the Constitution. The state shall guarantee the equality of rights and freedoms of man and citizen, regardless of sex, race, nationality, language, origin, property and official status, place of residence, religion, convictions, membership of public associations, and also of other circumstances. All forms of limitations of human rights on social, racial, national, linguistic or religious grounds shall be banned. All people shall be equal before the law and court.

¹⁴⁷ Law of the Russian Federation No. 2124-I of 27 December 1991.

¹⁴⁸ Federal Law No. 31-FZ of 18 March 2019.

¹⁴⁹ Federal Law No. 152-FZ “On Personal Data” of 27 July 2006.

It is worth mentioning that the state and legal protection against discrimination is ensured by the application of administrative and criminal liability measures, and by the existence of such legal mechanisms as application to the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation. In addition, in order to prevent adoption of normative legal acts limiting the constitutional principle of non-discrimination the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation conducts checks on the constitutionality of a law, which was applied in a specific case¹⁵⁰.

But while establishing the principle of equality, the Constitution of the Russian Federation is not limited to its recognition in the formal and legal sense (as equality in the scope of rights and freedoms), and at the same time enshrines the obligation of the state to guarantee rights and freedoms for all. This means that the state bears the duty to create equal guarantees of rights and freedoms for all, which presupposes active and targeted actions by the state to organize, through a system of legal, political, economic, ideological and organizational measures, a social environment in which everyone has real opportunities, on an equal basis with other members of society, enjoys the rights and freedoms recognized in Russia, and exercises their effective protection, including via justice.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the state supports persons with disabilities, develops the system of social services and establishes state pensions, allowances and other social protection guarantees. See the section on SDG 10 for detailed information on the implemented measures.

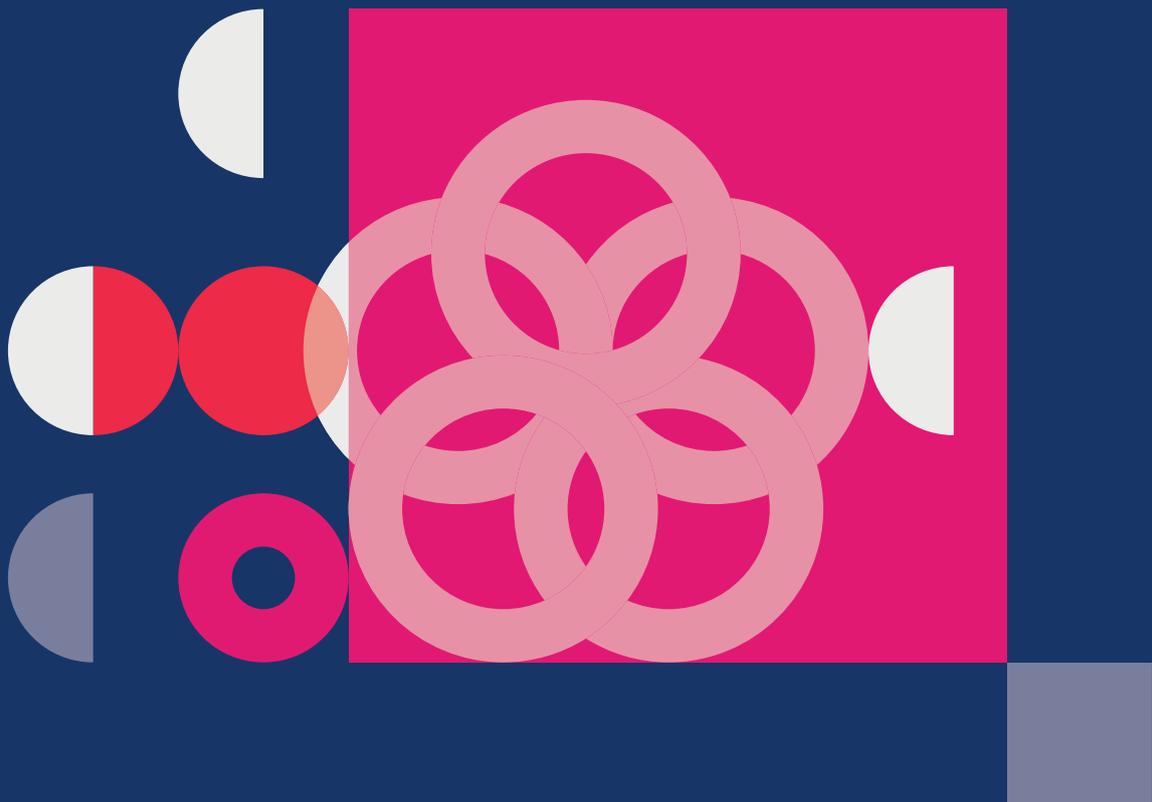
Looking forward

The Russian Federation is working to create a broader corruption measurement system that will cover the entire spectrum of criminal statistics, “corruption market” indicators and opinion polls. One of the examples is the Programme for International Scientific Monitoring of Corruption (MONCOR), initiated by the Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation. MONCOR enables an assessment of the status of corruption not only across the country in general, but also from a regional point. The analysis of corruption indicators of ten subjects of the Russian Federation carried out on the basis of MONCOR revealed direct causal links between corruption indicators, the number and stability of the state apparatus, the availability of natural resources, the development of individual sectors of the economy (construction building, transport, extraction and processing of natural resources, tourism business, etc.). The creation of the described system is aimed at solving the task of establishing a system of accounting and combating corruption.

¹⁵⁰ Article 3 of Federal Constitutional Law No. 1-FKZ of 21 July 1994 “On the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation”.

SDG 17

**Strengthen the means
of implementation and
revitalize the Global Partnership
for Sustainable Development**



Strengthen domestic resource mobilization to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection (Target 17.1)

Digitalization of tax administration helps to develop national capacity to collect taxes. Thus, online cash registers have been widely introduced since 2017. Due to them VAT receipts in the retail sector [increased](#) by 38% in the first year of operation. Also, an automated system of VAT refund control (ASC VAT) [was introduced](#), which, among other things, contributed to the fact that the share of doubtful VAT operations decreased to 0.6% in the first half of 2019 from 8% in 2016, and the number of organizations with signs of fictitious dropped from 1.6 mln to 120.6 thousand.

Russia takes an active part in international projects in the sphere of tax administration development. Thus, in March 2019, within the framework of the OECD Forum on Tax Administration [\[Russia is also a member\]](#), its participants [agreed](#) to implement a global strategy of digital development of tax authorities up to 2030 and to form a vision of the tax administration of the future.

The expertise of the Russian Federal Tax Service allowed launching a project to provide technical assistance to the tax authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The project envisages works to reengineer business processes, create a system of work with taxpayers and improve the system of property taxation. The similar project on development of information system in tax sphere is planned for the Kyrgyz Republic.

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 (Target 17.2)

Russia is an active and responsible member of the international donor community. The Concept of Russian Federation's State Policy in the Area of International Development Assistance, adopted in 2014, defines the main priorities and forms of Russia's assistance to partner countries. See the section on SDG 10 for detailed information on implementation of the Concept. Since 2014, assistance to partner countries has amounted to more than USD 5.5 bln.

According to the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, the 2018' federal budget expenditures classified as official development assistance (ODA) under the OECD methodology reached almost USD 1 bln. The bulk of the expenditure was on bilateral aid (63% or USD 628.2 mln, which includes earmarked contributions to international United Nations organizations), Multilateral assistance included mandatory contributions to United Nations organizations and World Bank Group general funds.

The geographical structure of bilateral aid in 2018 was dominated by Latin America (58.4%), where Cuba became the principal recipient. Cuba was followed by Asia (27.6%), Africa (4.7%) and Eastern Europe (1.7%). In 2018, 15.6% of total bilateral aid was allocated to the CIS countries. There are following major categories of multilateral aid: contributions to regional banks (60.7%), United Nations organizations (28.2%), the World Bank Group (4.4%) and other organizations (6.7%).

Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources (Target 17.3)

Since 2014, Russia has participated in the Initiative of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on public debt management for low-income countries (by assessing national systems, preparing reformation strategies, technical support, etc.).

Russia remains the most important source of money transfers from migrant workers for the CIS countries. See the section on SDG 10 for detailed information on money transfers from migrants.

Russia is actively developing cooperation with WFP: in 2019 [the country signed](#) an Agreement on Strategic Partnership for 2019–2022, which aims to further diversify the forms and geography of joint activities. Starting from 2020 Russian annual contributions to WFP (the principal one of USD 20 mln and the additional one of USD 10 mln) will increase by USD 10 mln (additional funds will be annually sent to provide food assistance to population in distress in Africa). The Russian Federation is also working with WFP to convert the “bad debts” of developing States into targeted Development Programme projects. In August 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Mozambique and WFP for the implementation of a national school meals programme for 2017–2021, on the basis of a five-year phased write-off of the country’s USD 40 mln debt towards Russia. See the section on SDG 2 for detailed information on the international assistance to implementation of school meals projects in other countries.

Case Study

KAMAZ PTC

Russian companies also support the contribution to maintaining the operational efficiency of WFP. Thus, the WFP truck fleet was replenished with KAMAZ PTC trucks that were delivered in two stages in 2015 and 2019. WFP received a total of more than 300 trucks and components.

Cooperation with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has been actively developing. During 2012–2018 a total of USD 25 mln was allocated to partner countries for humanitarian response operations and development assistance. In September 2019, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Government and UNICEF was signed. It set the directions for strategic cooperation between Russia and UNICEF. This gave an impetus to the development of project cooperation, as a result of which at the end of 2019 Russia financed several development assistance projects worth a total of USD 12.3 mln.

Russia also maintains partnership relations with international organizations in the sphere of health care. One of the important areas of Russia’s partnership with WHO is the fight against NCDs. Approximately USD 30 mln has been allocated since 2012, and in 2019 a decision was made on allocating additional USD 40.6 mln for the WHO budget during 2019–2023 to finance a joint project on strengthening health systems for the prevention and control of NCDs. See the section on SDG 3 for information on Russia’s contribution to WHO’s activities.

Together with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Russia is implementing technical assistance projects for developing countries in the spheres of transport, energy, trade facilitation, environmental protection and statistics. The country provides USD 1.2 mln of voluntary contributions annually to each of them for this purpose. The main recipients of such assistance are the Central Asian and Transcaucasian States.

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 (Target 17.6)

Russia actively promotes regional cooperation, which includes the countries of Eastern Europe, Transcaucasian and Central Asian countries and countries of Asia-Pacific region. The implementation of such cooperation is reflected in the framework of multilateral and regional associations such as EAEU, BRICS, SCO, ASEAN, ASEM and APEC.

Within the framework of experience exchange, the Federal Tax Service of Russia (FTS) provides technical assistance to foreign tax administrations: from training workshops and trainings for specialists of tax authorities to direct technical assistance in the form of consultations on areas of modernization of information and analytical systems. Technical assistance is usually customized to meet the demands of foreign counterparts, the level of digital maturity of existing information systems and the challenges faced by the tax administration. In particular, the FTS provides assistance to the tax authorities of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus and Azerbaijan.

Following the meeting of tax experts and the heads of tax administrations of BRICS¹⁵¹ countries as a follow-up to the Memorandum of Cooperation between Tax Administrations of BRICS countries signed by the parties in 2017, an agreement was reached to form a mechanism for strengthening tax capacity (Capacity Building Mechanism), which is an annual action plan for exchange of knowledge and experience among tax authorities of BRICS countries.

Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies in ways that are affordable to developing countries, and to enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all sustainable development goals (Targets 17.7, 17.9)

Russia's cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is increasingly developing: 2015 saw signing of the landmark Partnership Framework Agreement. In June of the same year, the Russia-UNDP Trust Fund for Development was established with initial funding from USD 25 mln for four years from Russia. A total of more than USD 80 mln was earmarked for development assistance to UNDP in 2012–2018. Within the framework of cooperation with UNDP, Russia participates in many projects aimed at building capacity of partner countries in the sphere of sustainable development. In particular, the following projects have been implemented with the financial participation of Russia in recent years:

- [project](#) on Strengthening Tajikistan's emergency preparedness and response capacity in 2016–2018 was funded by Russia (USD 1.65 mln);
- [assistance](#) to the recovery after Hurricane Matthew in Cuba in 2017–2019, with Russia's [contribution](#) of USD 1 mln;
- [project](#) on integrated development of rural tourism in Armenia in 2017–2019 was financed by Russia (USD 3 mln);
- [project](#) to help building up Serbia's productive capacity in 2016–2019 was financed by Russia (USD 1.5 mln).

In April 2016, the Government of the Russian Federation made a decision to allocate an additional USD 10 mln to finance UNDP projects in the area of climate change mitigation ("climate window"). In December 2017, a similar "window" of funding in the amount of USD 10 mln was created to support projects to promote socio-economic opportunities for youth.

¹⁵¹ Took place on June 18–21, in Johannesburg, SAR.

Russia is the 5th largest contributor to the Fund of UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The annual voluntary contribution of Russia amounts to USD 2.6 mln. At present, 9 development assistance projects are being implemented through the Russian contribution to UNIDO, most of them are in CIS countries. These projects include:

- Development of a UNIDO Country Partnership Programme with the Kyrgyz Republic to assist in the preparation of a draft sustainable industrial development strategy for Kyrgyzstan and a respective action plan;
- a project to implement best practices at plants producing component base for the automotive industry in Belarus;
- providing technical assistance to Armenia for the introduction of advanced technologies in the sphere of sewing industry and the introduction of its products to the world markets;
- carpet weaving development in Tajikistan.

Russia attaches great importance to cooperation with international organizations aimed at the rehabilitation of tailing dump territories in the world. Within the framework of cooperation with UNDP, Russia has contributed about USD 1.5 mln to projects for the socio-economic development of settlements located near radioactive tailing dumps in Kyrgyzstan over the 2015–2017 period. In 2018, with the assistance of Rosatom, the main reclamation works at the “Kaji-Sai” tailing dump were completed there, as well as [preparatory work](#) for the liquidation of one of the most dangerous tailing dumps, the “Tuyuk-Suu”.

Case Study

Agency for Strategic Initiatives

The Agency for Strategic Initiatives is currently developing the “Smarteka” Digital Platform of Regional Practices of Sustainable Development. The purpose of the platform is to accumulate and replicate knowledge, projects and solutions that are available for implementation in Russia and abroad.

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 (Target 17.10)

As a full member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) since 2012, the Russian Federation supports the preservation and development of a multilateral, fair and non-discriminatory trade system that takes into account, inter alia, the stage of development of developing and least developed countries.

Through UNDP Russia assists Belarus in its WTO accession process by helping in developing its institutional structures and competencies. The volume of Russian funding for these purposes, intended for 2018–2020, [amounted to USD 592,500](#). Since 2020, a similar project has been implemented for the Republic of Uzbekistan using the resources of the Russia-WTO Trust Fund (USD 1.4 mln). In addition, Russia is involved in the activities of such trade facilitation organizations as UNCTAD and ITC UNCTAD/WTO.

Case Study

Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development “Eco-Accord” (Eco-Accord NGO)

Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development “Eco-Accord” (Eco-Accord NGO) is implementing a programme aimed at raising awareness and promoting dialogue among various stakeholders (government agencies, non-governmental organizations, women’s and youth groups, academic community, local authorities, trade unions, business associations and indigenous peoples). The programme includes information activities on capacity building, exchanging experiences to take advantage of countries’ participation in the international trading system, reducing negative effects, and more efficient participation in WTO negotiations.

There is work being conducted for the purposes of entering into bilateral and multilateral trade agreements in order to develop access of Russian products to foreign markets, as well as access of products of other countries to the Russian market. One may highlight the following agreements at the level of the EAEU:

- Free Trade [Agreement](#) with Vietnam (entered into force in 2016);
- [Agreement](#) on trade and economic cooperation with China ([entered into force](#) on October 25, 2019);
- [Temporary agreement](#) leading to the formation of a free trade zone between the EAEU and Iran ([effective from](#) October 27, 2019);
- Free Trade [Agreement](#) with Serbia ([signed on](#) October 25, 2019);
- Free Trade [Agreement](#) with the Republic of Singapore ([signed on](#) October 2, 2019).

Both the development of integration within the EAEU and the conclusion of bilateral free trade agreements with third countries do not contradict WTO rules. Russia has consistently advocated the preservation of a multilateral trade system based on WTO agreements and rules, and actively participates in discussions on the reform of the WTO for more equitable consideration of the interests of all its members, ensuring inclusive growth, and addressing such important development issues as job creation and poverty reduction. In addition, Russia advocates opposing the use of unilateral trade and economic restrictions for political purposes and supporting the involvement of more countries in the multilateral trading system by assisting its closest trade partners in the CIS territory in the process of WTO accession negotiations.

Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence (Target 17.13)

Russia is the main shareholder (with 88% stake) of the Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development (EFSD), a specialized regional financial mechanism, which is among the largest structures of similar line of work in the world, along with the European Stability Mechanism, Chiang Mai Initiative and others. The Fund's capital is USD 8.5 bln (Russia's contribution is USD 7.5 bln). The key tasks of the EFSD are financial support of economies, financing of investment projects, ensuring long-term sustainability of economies, and facilitating further enhancing of integration of economies of the Fund's member states.

In recent years Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan have been the recipients of support from the EFSD (in the form of grants, investment loans, financial credits). Assistance was provided in the following areas: health, budget and/or balance of payments support, agriculture, transport, energy.

Russia took an active part in the creation and launch of two major multilateral development institutions, namely, New BRICS Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (Targets 17.16, 17.17)

Russia has been systematically implementing a policy to strengthen Global Partnership for Sustainable Development with the participation of international organizations and at multilateral forums. Thus, the G-20 is addressing the issues of sustainable, stable, balanced and inclusive growth, reform of the international financial architecture, infrastructure development, global health, food security and South-South cooperation.

The Russian Federation is also cooperating with the “UN Volunteers” programme. The cooperation resulted in a project of sending Russian expert volunteers to developing countries to assist national development and improve living standards. The joint project with UN Volunteers [started](#) in 2018, when 19 Russian citizens went to 16 countries of the CIS, Asia, Africa and the Middle East as UN Volunteers. In November 2019, the Government of the Russian Federation allocated USD 3 mln for prolonging the project for another three years.

The Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation is actively involved in the development of international cooperation to facilitate the implementation of the SDGs. As the Chair of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI, consisting of 195 full, 1 affiliated and 5 associated members) for the period from 2019 to 2021, the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation is deeply engaged in defining the main directions of activities of INTOSAI, including development of approaches to the audit of SDG. The INTOSAI Strategic Plan for 2017–2022 includes Cross-cutting Priority 2: “facilitating the follow-up and analysis of the achievement of the SDG in the context of the specific sustainable development efforts of each state and the individual mandates of the supreme audit institutions”. INTOSAI has working groups and programmes that allow supreme audit institutions from different countries to share their experiences in order to achieve the set targets. The Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation is the Chair of the INTOSAI Working Group on SDGs and Key Sustainable Development Indicators, which includes 27 member countries and 6 observers.

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 (Target 17.19)

Russia continues to build up its own monitoring and evaluation capacity while providing support to partner countries in this area both on multilateral and bilateral basis. Together with other countries Russia took part in the work of the working group of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) on statistics in the sphere of SDG.

Russia is also a member of the CES working group on capacity building for SDG and the CES working group on data transmission for SDG. Russia is also a Co-Chair of the CES Working Group on Interaction in Statistics for the SDG.

An example of successful multilateral cooperation in the field of statistical capacity development for SDG monitoring is the implementation of a joint programme of Russia and the World Bank to support statistical capacity building in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, which is aimed at improving expertise, systems of official statistics, data processing and distribution, and the creation of a system of professional training and professional development.

May 2019 saw launching of “Strengthening Research Capacity to Improve Statistics for SDGs”, a joint project of Rosstat and ESCAP.

Looking forward

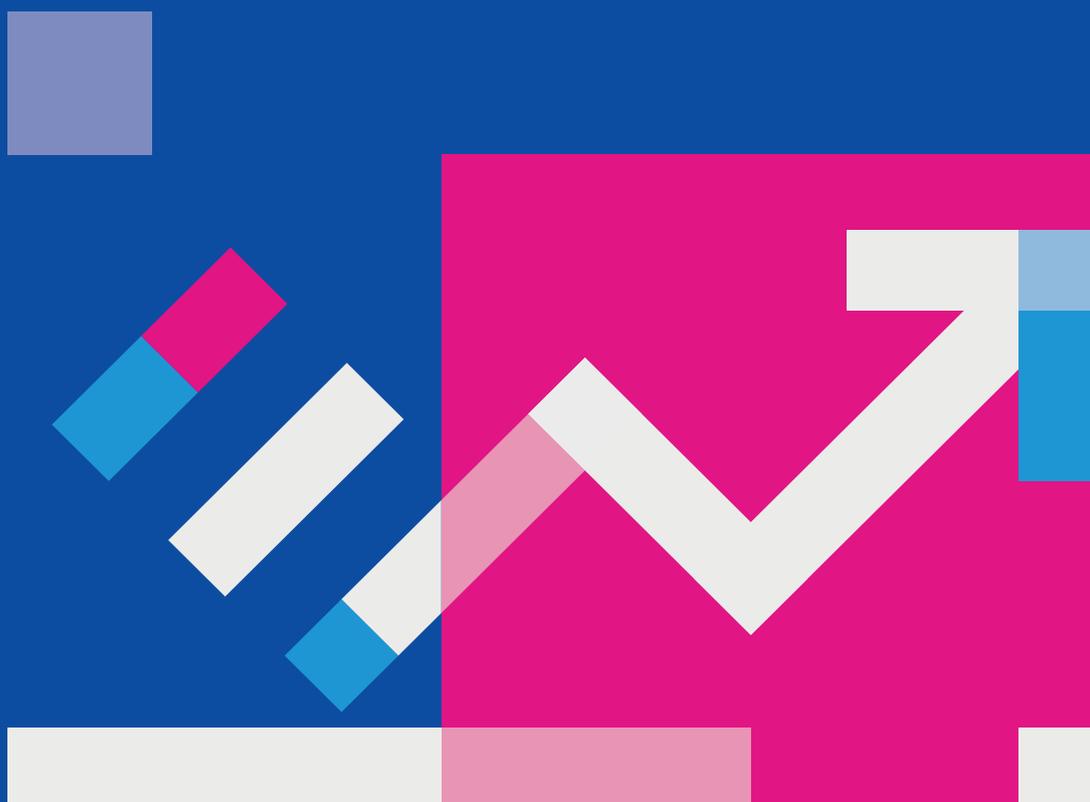
One of the tasks within the framework of the implementation of SDG 17 is to maintain and develop international cooperation for sustainable development under the current unilateral restrictions imposed by the USA and EU countries. They affect Russia’s achievement of SDG 17 by limiting access of Russian companies to foreign markets.

Russia remains an important source of support for neighboring historically close CIS countries, which receive financial and technological support for infrastructure projects as well as advice on a wide range of issues.

Statistical Annex



The statistical annex includes a truncated list of SDG indicators in Russia. A complete set of data, which characterize the achievement of the SDGs in the country, is presented by Federal State Statistics Service on the web-portal in the subsection [“Sustainable Development Goals”](#)



SDG 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere

PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION LIVING BELOW THE NATIONAL POVERTY LINE

Rosstat / for the year preceding the previous, %



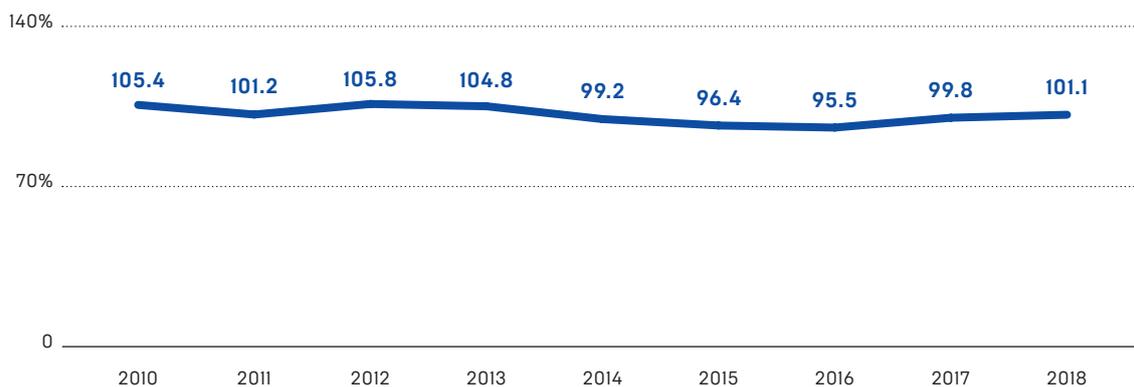
PROPORTION OF TOTAL GOVERNMENT SPENDING ON ESSENTIAL SERVICES (EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION)

The Federal Treasury / %



REAL MONEY INCOME

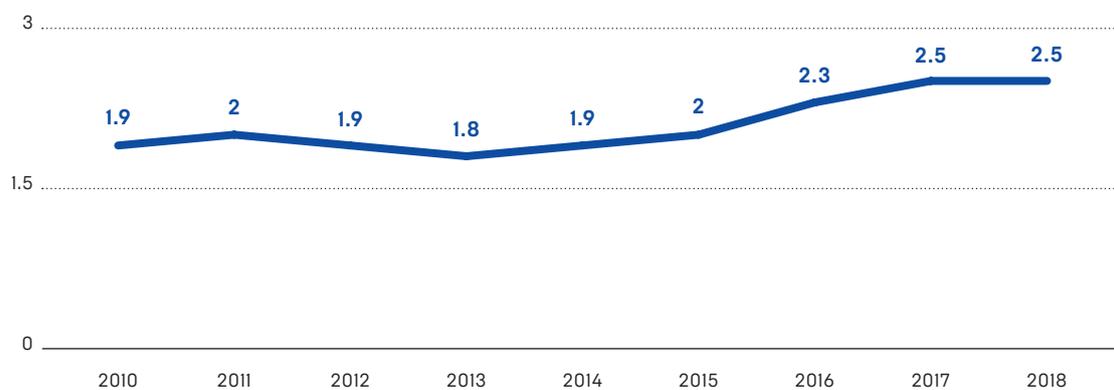
Rosstat / % of the previous period



SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

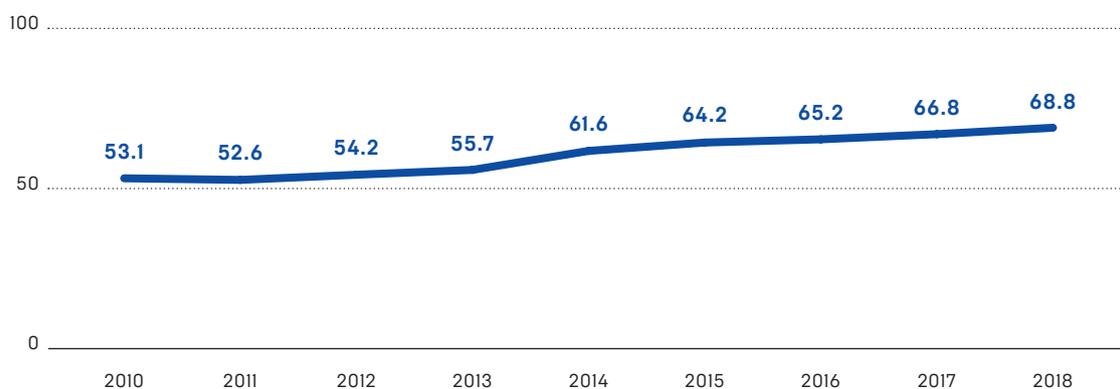
CONTRIBUTED BY AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS OF MINERAL FERTILIZERS

Rosstat / excluding microenterprises, in terms of 100% nutrients, mln tons



CONTRIBUTED BY AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS OF ORGANIC FERTILIZERS

Rosstat / excluding microenterprises, mln tons



AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION INDEX

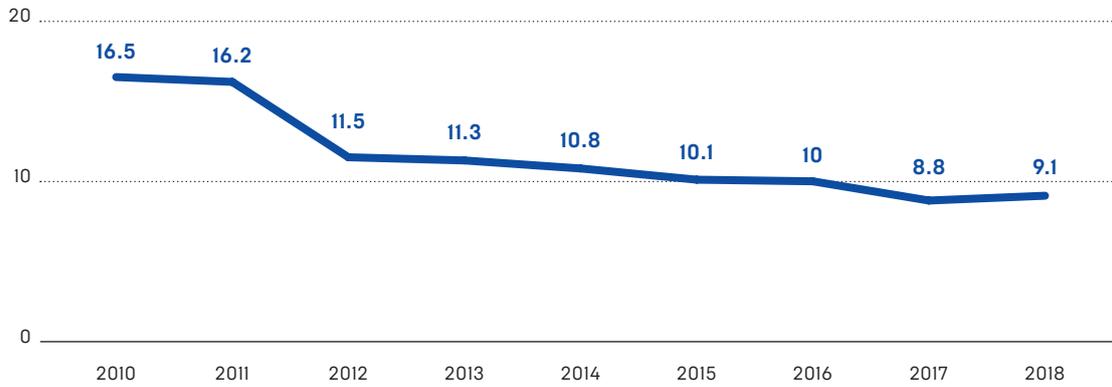
Rosstat / at comparative prices to the previous year, %



SDG 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

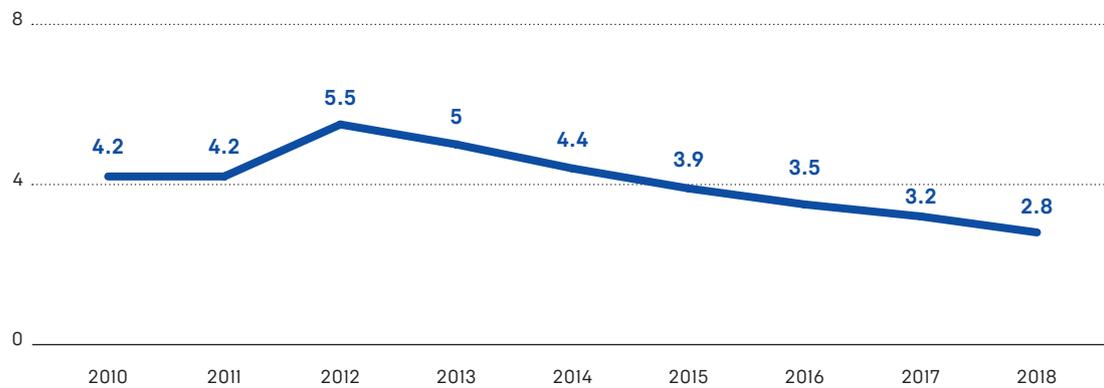
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO

Rosstat / per 100,000 live births



NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE

Rosstat / ppm



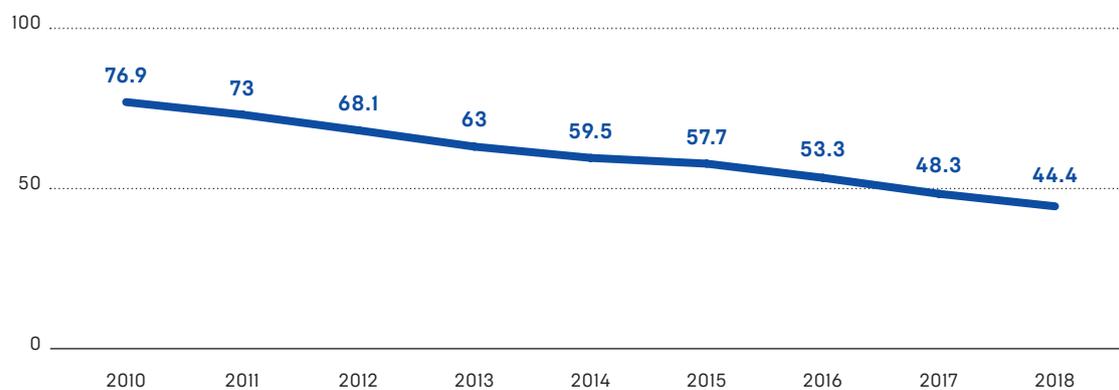
THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED PATIENTS WITH A FIRST-TIME DIAGNOSIS OF HIV INFECTION

Rosstat, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation / per 100,000 population



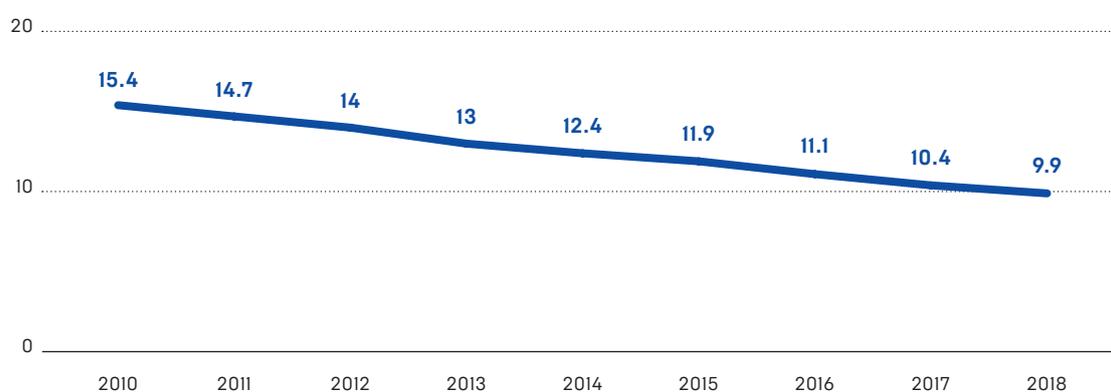
TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE

Rosstat, Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation / per 100,000 population



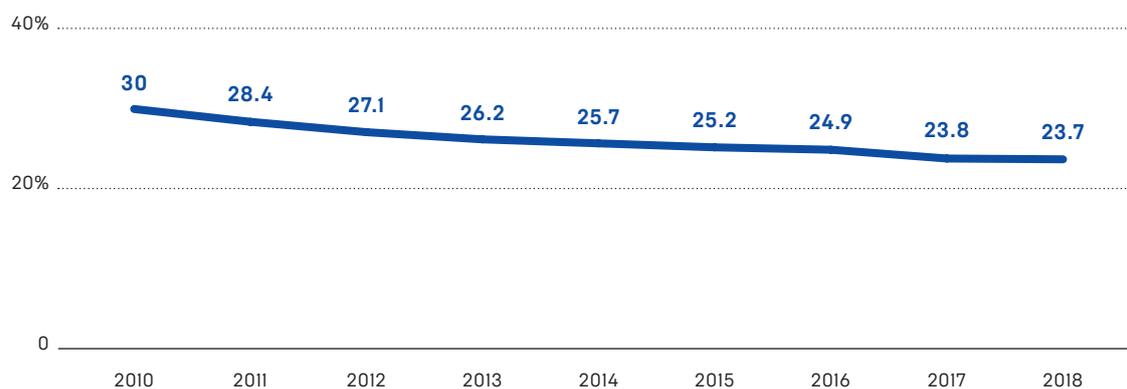
HEPATITIS B INCIDENCE

Rosstat, Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing / per 100,000 population



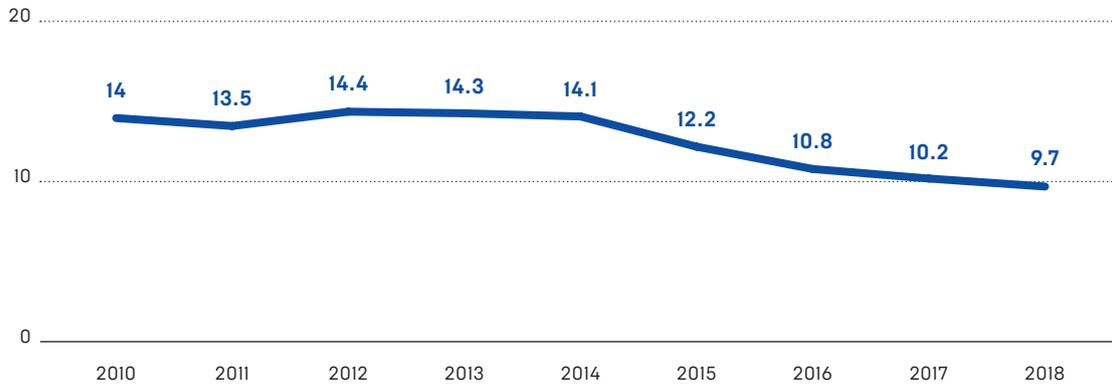
MORTALITY RATE ATTRIBUTED TO CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, CANCER, DIABETES OR CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE

Rosstat / %



DEATH RATE DUE TO ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES

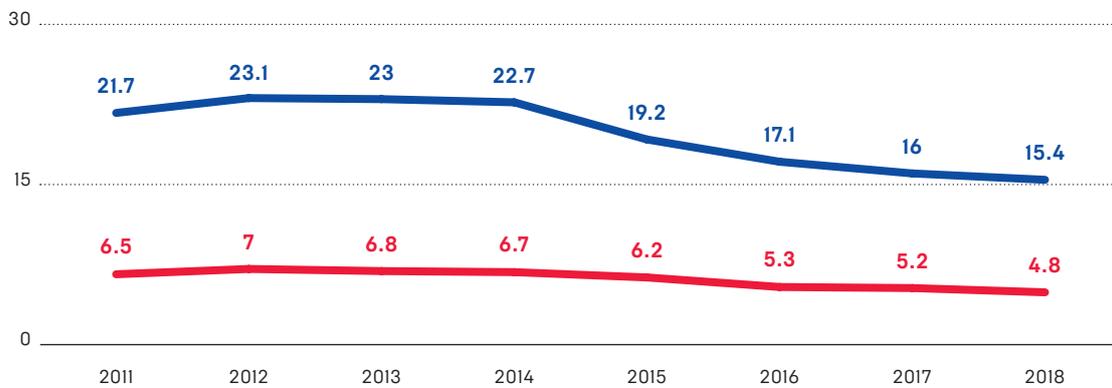
Rosstat / per 100,000 population



DEATH RATE DUE TO ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES BY SEX

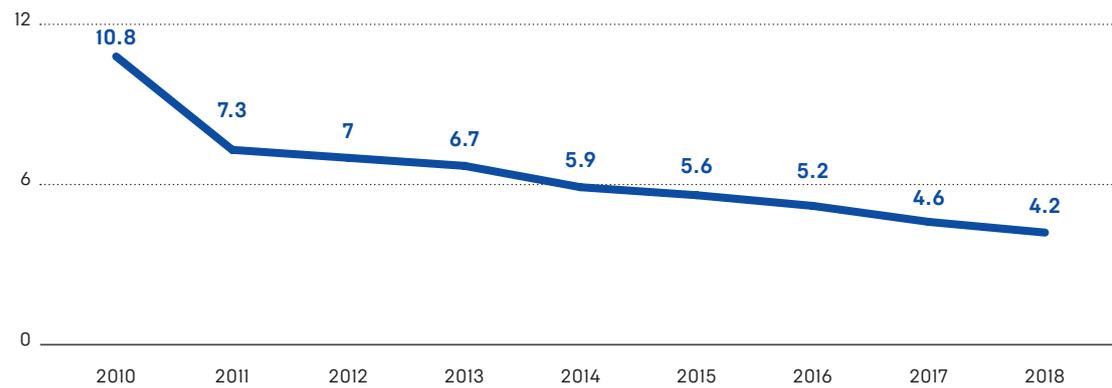
Rosstat / per 100,000 population

■ Men ■ Women



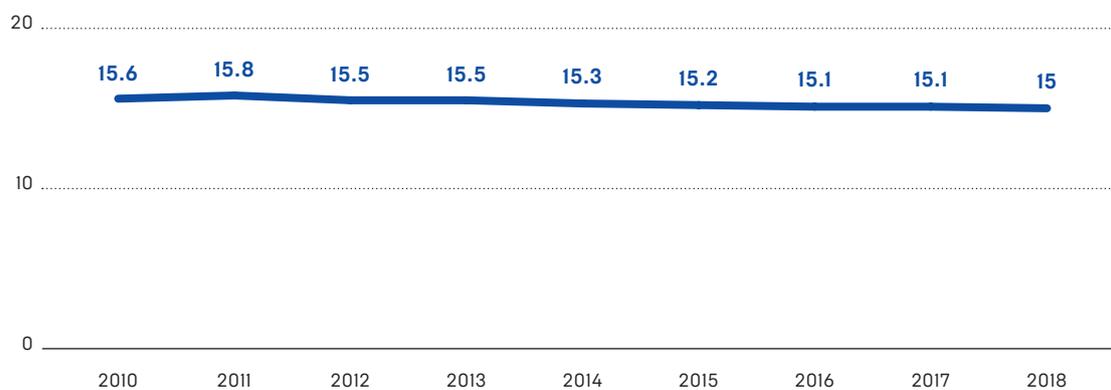
MORTALITY RATE ATTRIBUTED TO UNINTENTIONAL POISONING

Rosstat / per 100,000 population



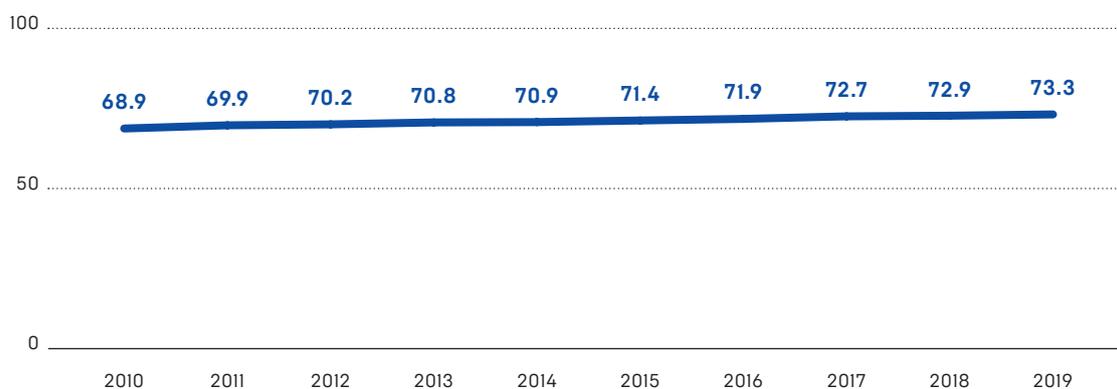
HEALTH WORKER DENSITY

Rosstat / per 1,000 population



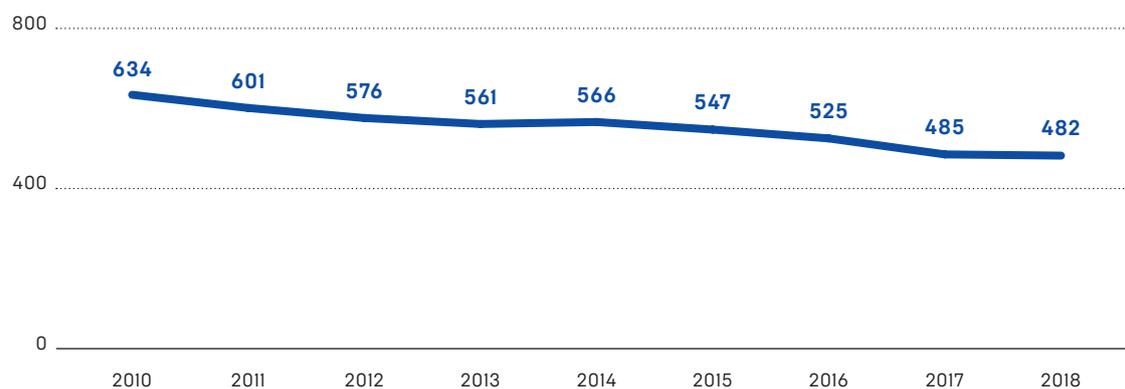
LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

Rosstat / years



MORTALITY OF WORKING AGE POPULATION

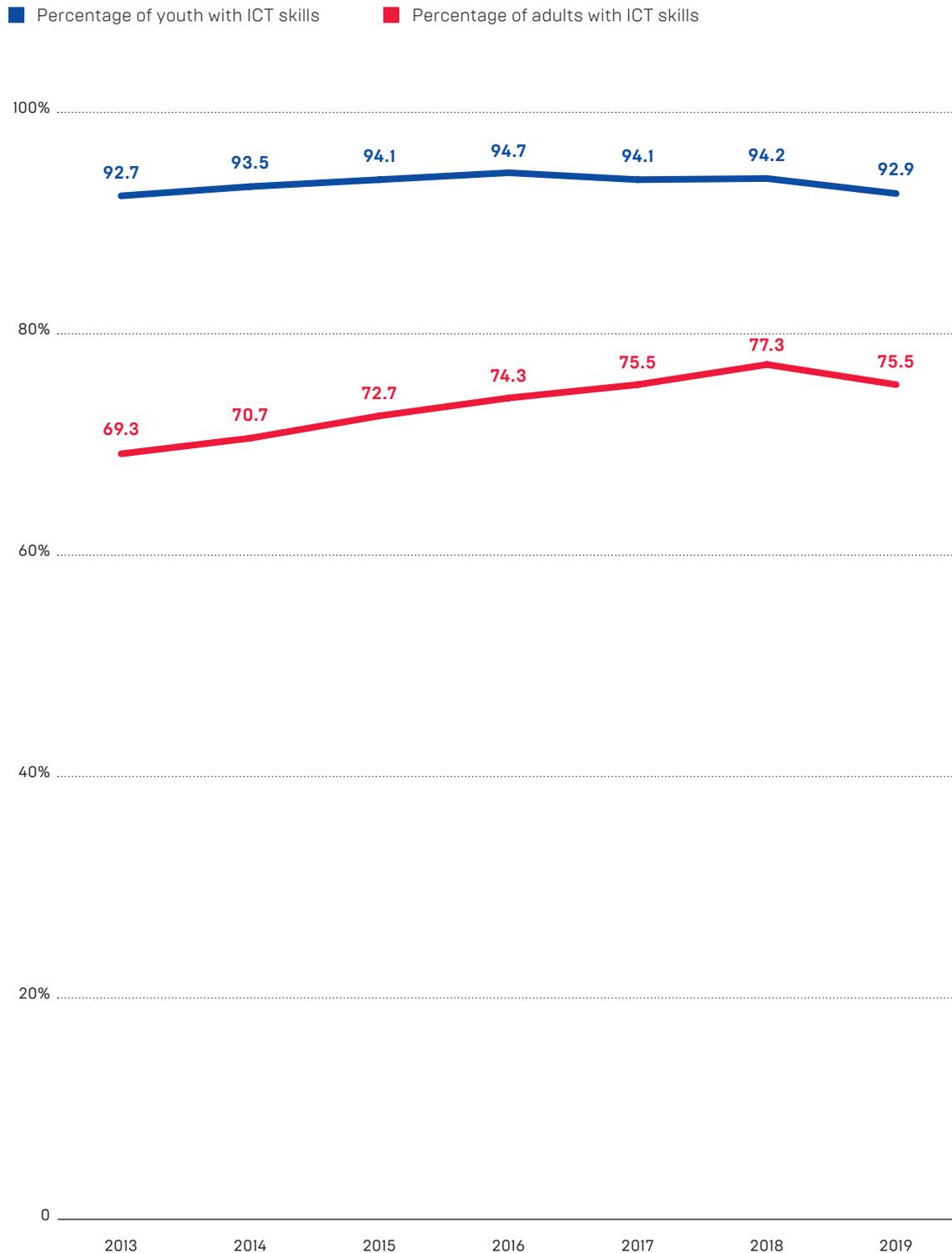
Rosstat / per 100,000 population



SDG 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

PROPORTION OF YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) SKILLS

Rosstat / in the total population of the corresponding age (adults — population aged 15–74, until 2017 — aged 15–72; youth — population aged 15–24 years), %



SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

PROPORTION OF SEATS HELD BY WOMEN IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

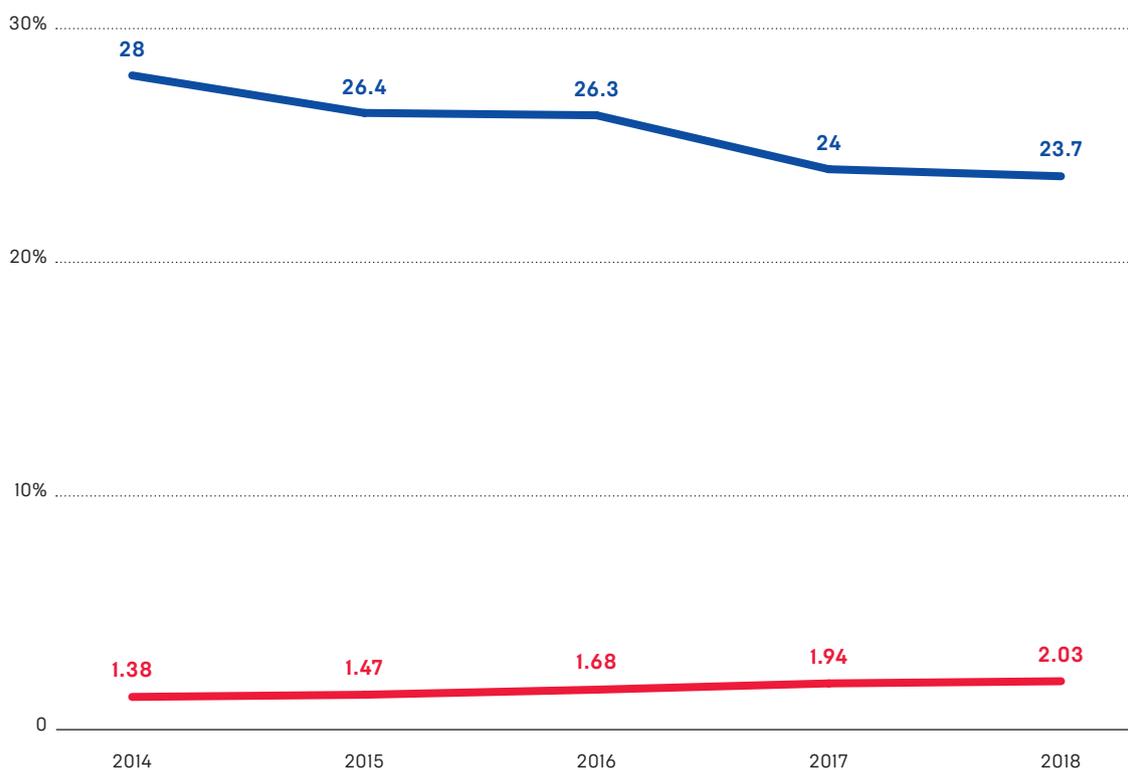
Rosstat / as of January 1 of the current year, %



PROPORTION OF WOMEN VICTIMS OF CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON AND OF CRIMES AGAINST SEXUAL INVIOABILITY AND PERSONAL SEXUAL FREEDOM

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation / of all women victims, %

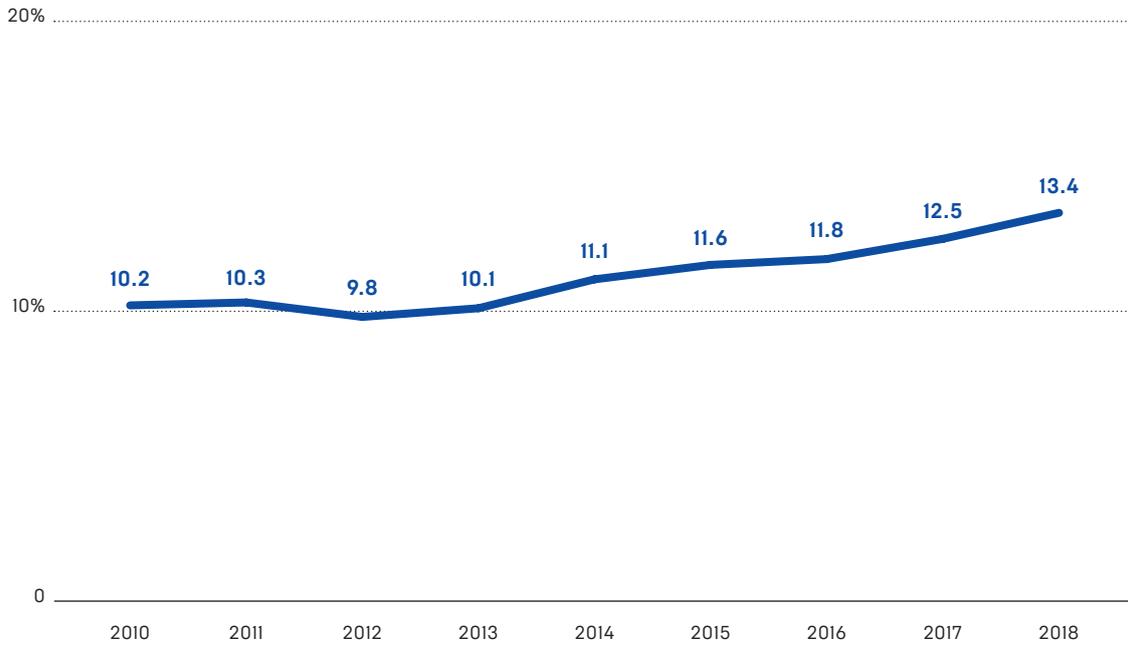
- Proportion of women victims of crimes against the person (Section 7 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation)
- Proportion of women victims of crimes against sexual inviolability and personal sexual freedom (Chapter 18 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation)



SDG 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

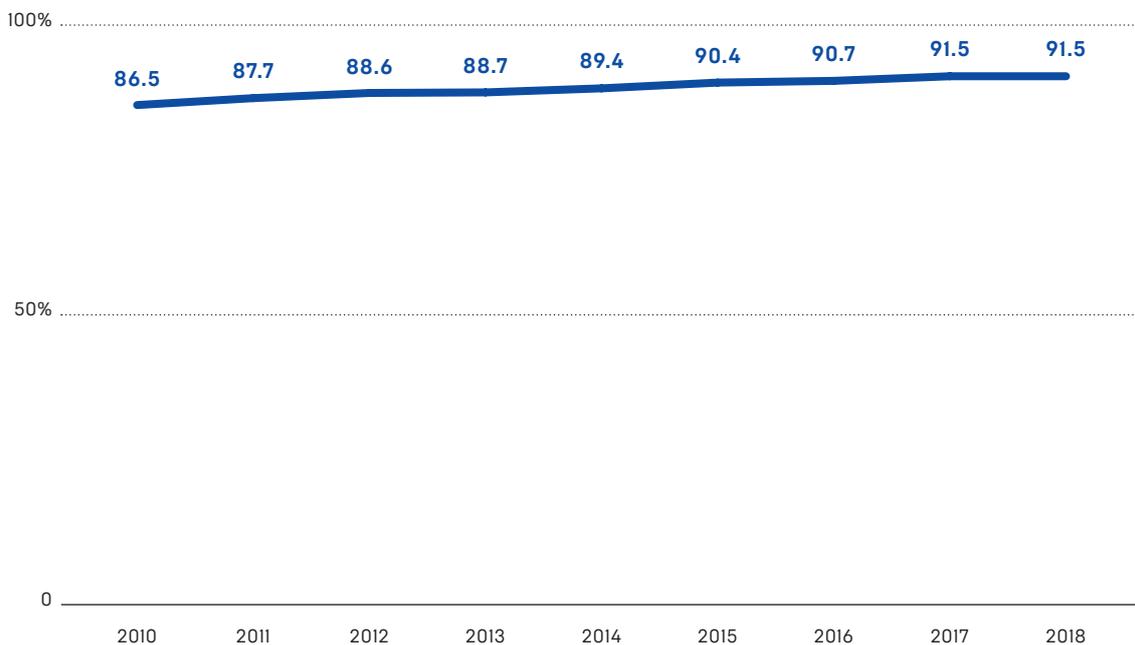
PROPORTION OF WASTEWATER SAFELY TREATED

Federal Water Resources Agency / %



PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION PROVIDED WITH SAFE DRINKING WATER

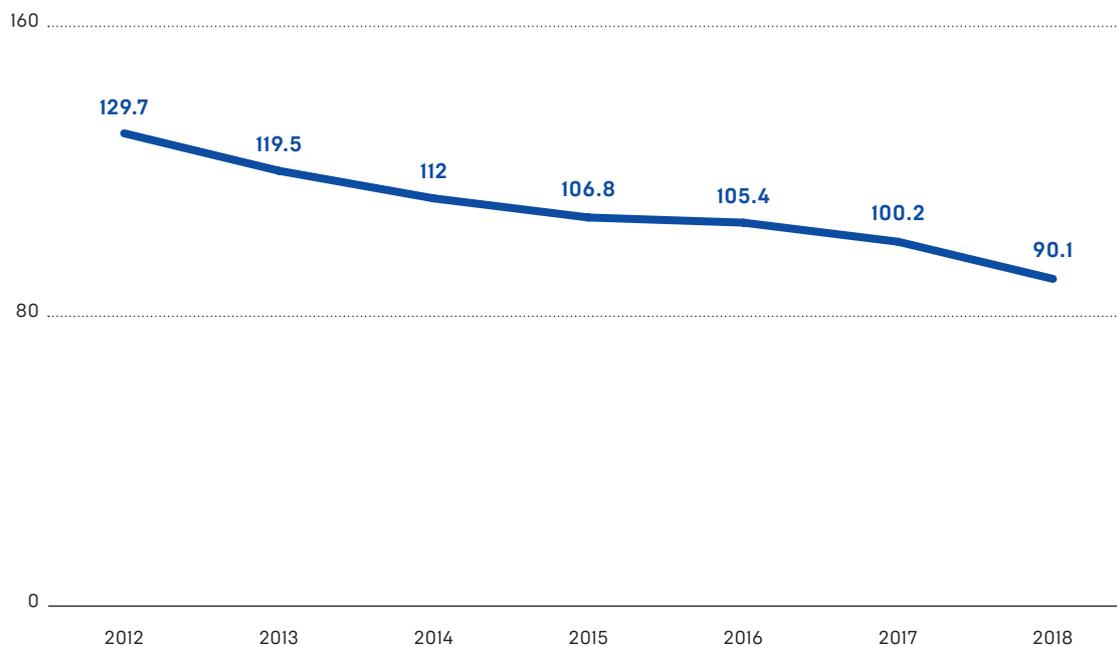
Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing / in the total population, %



SDG 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy

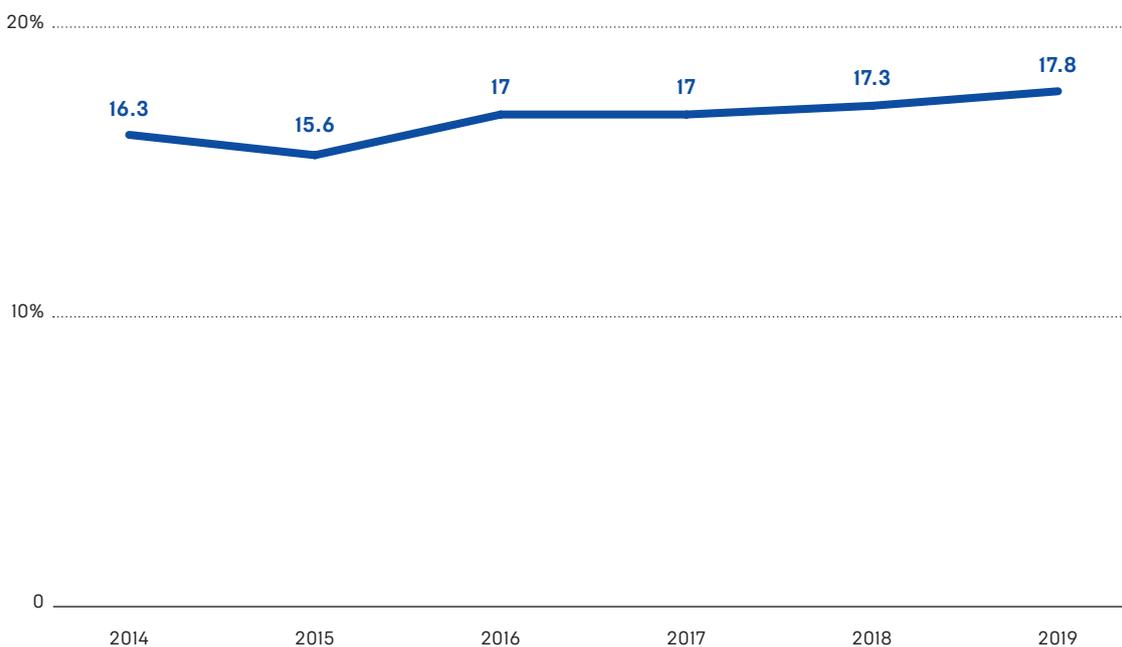
ENERGY INTENSITY OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)

Rosstat / for the year preceding the previous, kg of fuel equivalent per 10,000 rubles, at current prices



SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES (HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATIONS AND OTHER RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES) IN THE STRUCTURE OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION IN THE UES OF RUSSIA

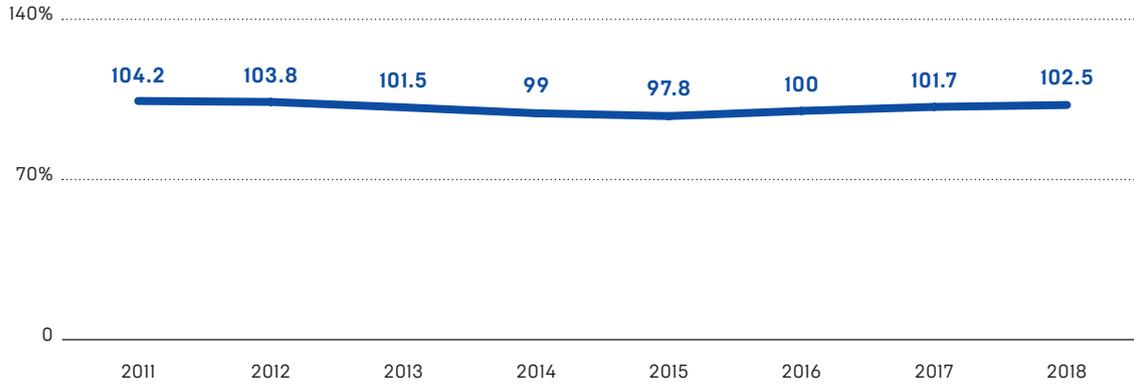
System Operator of the Unified Energy System JSC / %



SDG 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

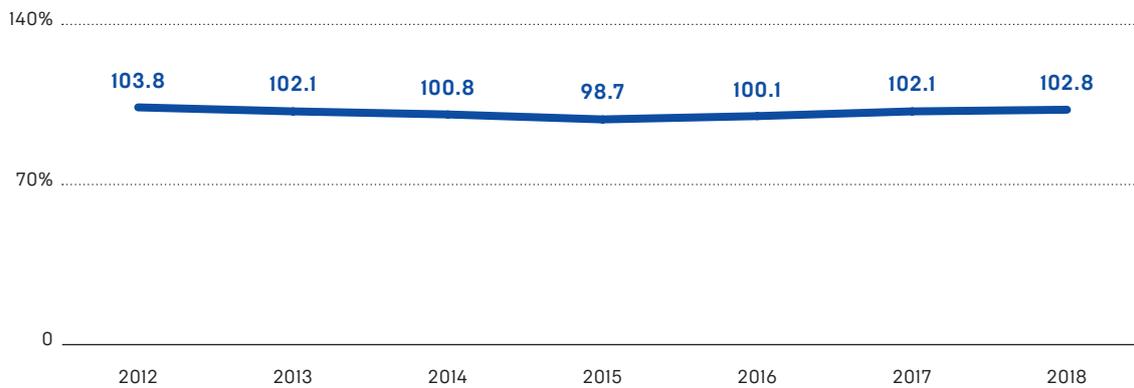
INDEX OF PHYSICAL VOLUME OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT PER CAPITA

Rosstat / for the year preceding the previous, %



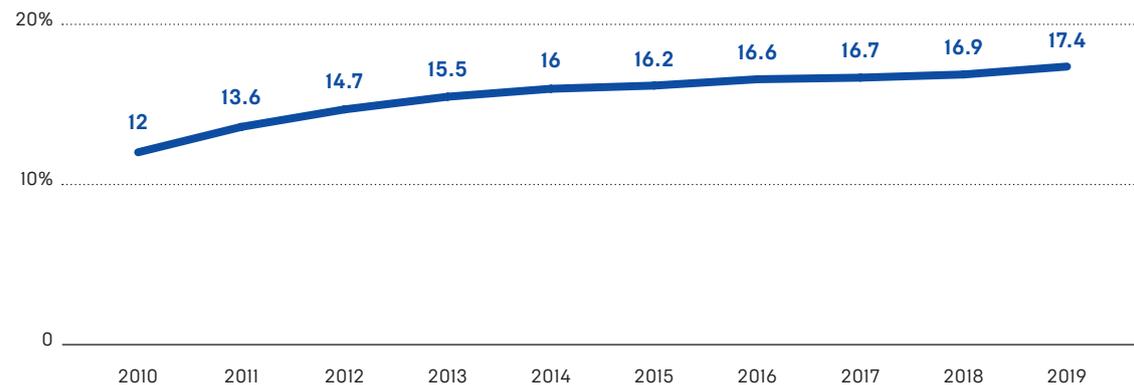
LABOR PRODUCTIVITY INDEX

Rosstat / %



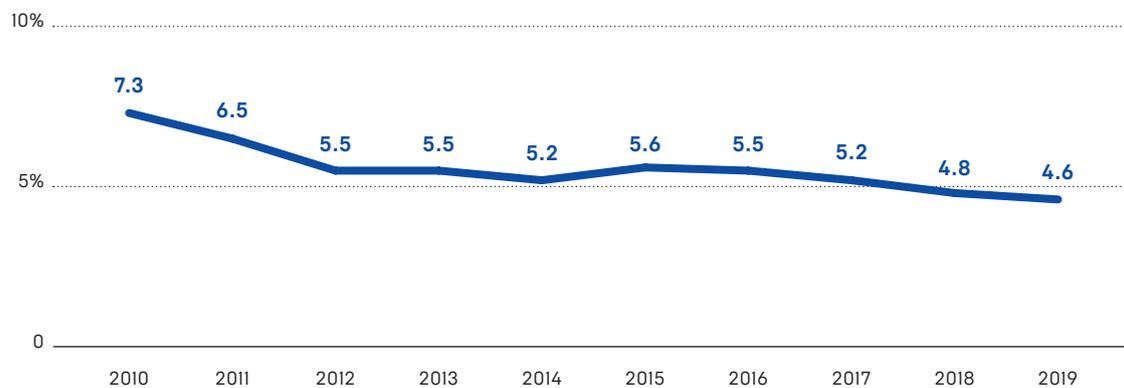
PROPORTION OF INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURE EMPLOYMENT

Rosstat / among the population aged 15–72 years, %



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

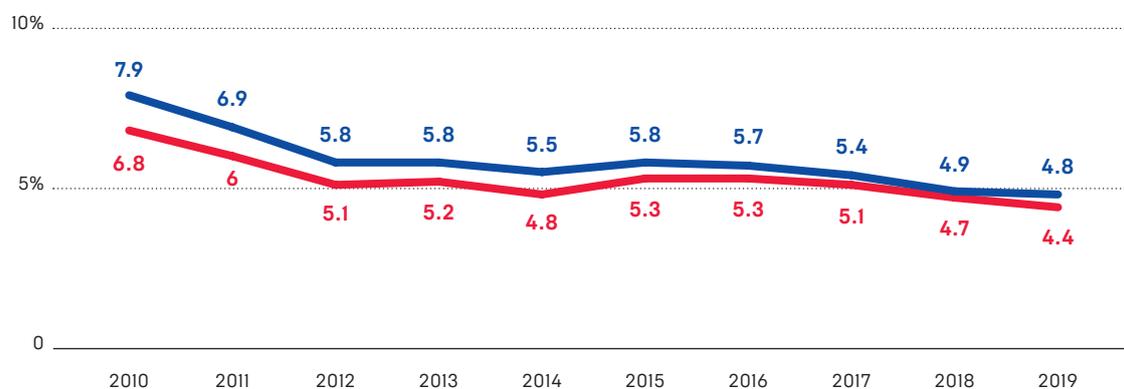
Rosstat / among the population aged 15–72 years, %



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BY SEX

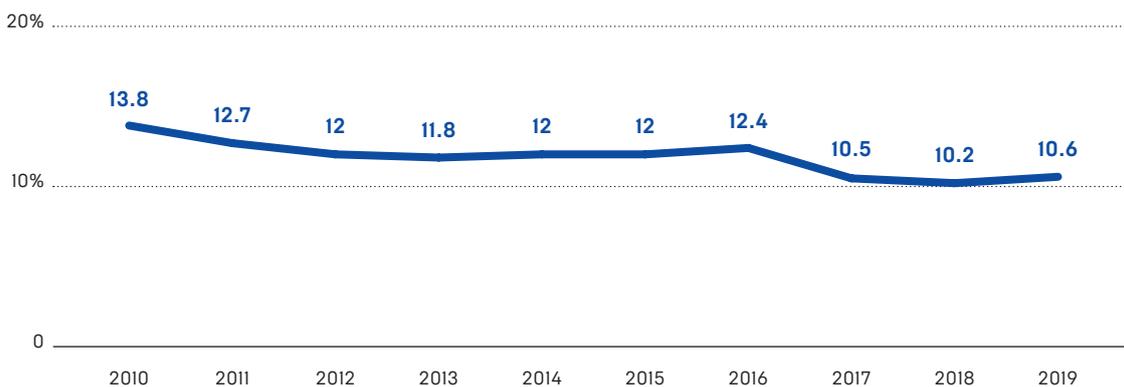
Rosstat / among the population aged 15–72 years, %

■ Men ■ Women



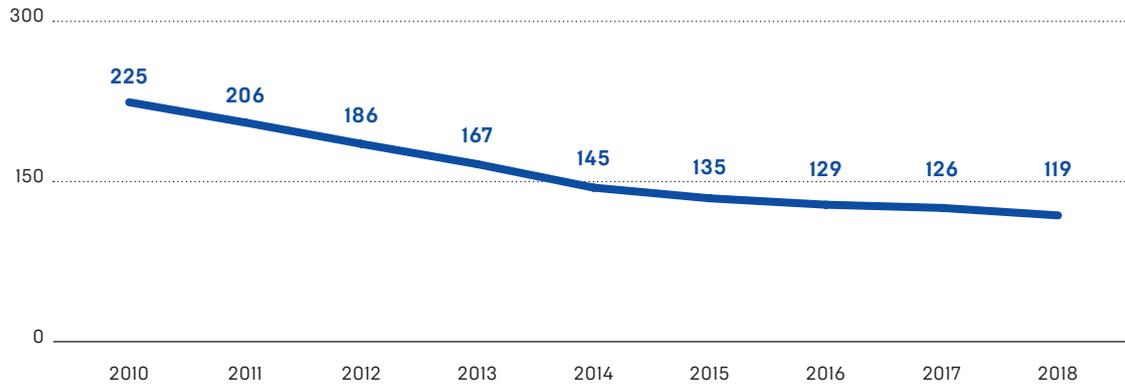
PROPORTION OF YOUTH NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING

Rosstat / among the population aged 15–24 years, %



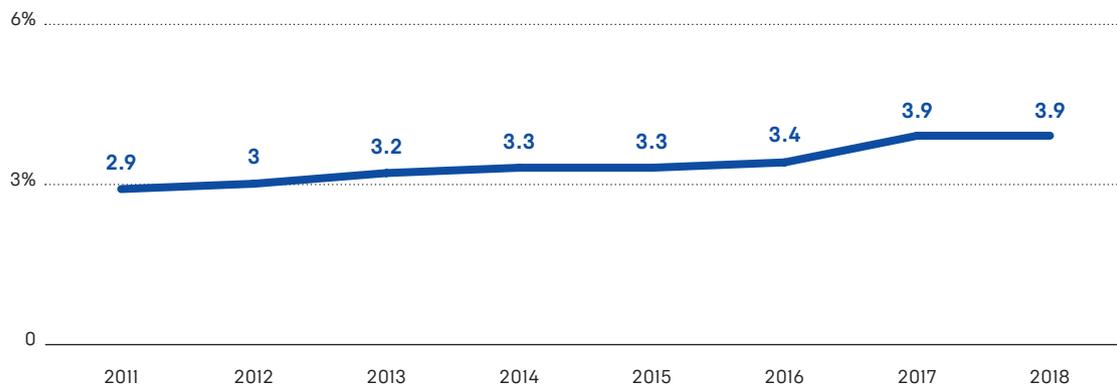
FREQUENCY RATES OF FATAL AND NON-FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES

Rosstat / per 100,000 employees, people



TOURISM DIRECT GDP AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL GDP OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Rosstat / for the year preceding the previous, %

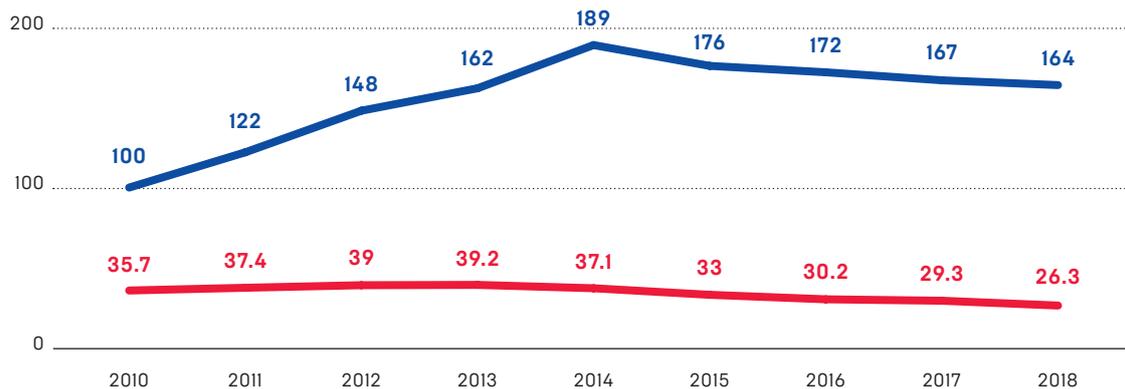


NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL BANK BRANCHES AND NUMBER OF ATMS

Bank of Russia / per 100,000 adults (aged 18 and over), units

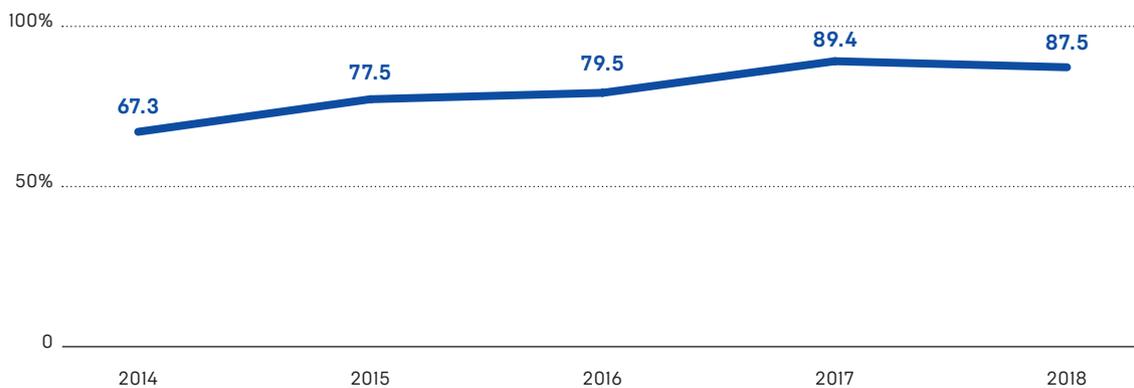
■ Number of ATMs

■ Number of separate divisions and internal structural divisions of banks



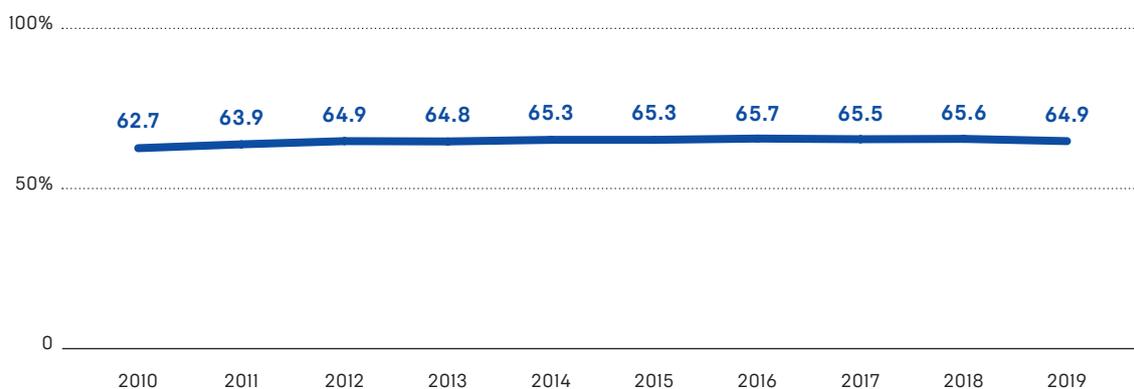
PROPORTION OF THE ADULTS WITH AN AT LEAST ONE OPEN ACCOUNT IN A BANK (A CREDIT INSTITUTION)

Bank of Russia / among the population aged 18 years and older, %



EMPLOYMENT RATE

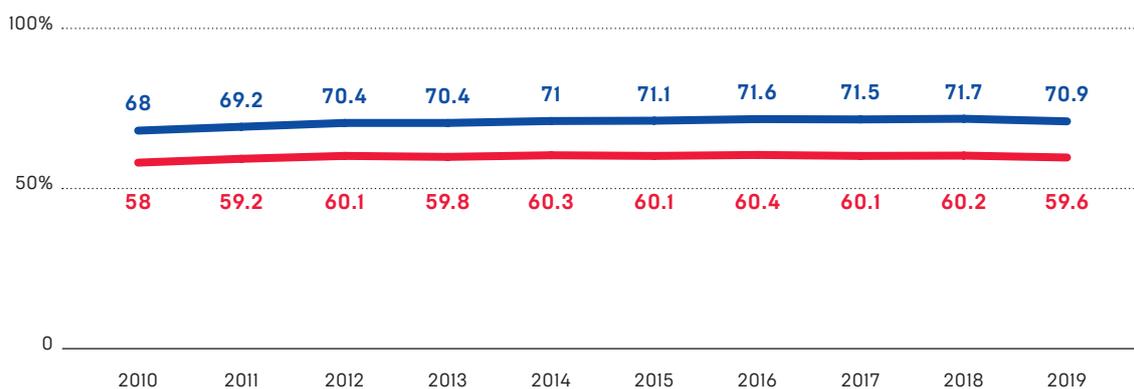
Rosstat / among the population aged 15–72 years, %



EMPLOYMENT RATE BY SEX

Rosstat / among the population aged 15–72 years, %

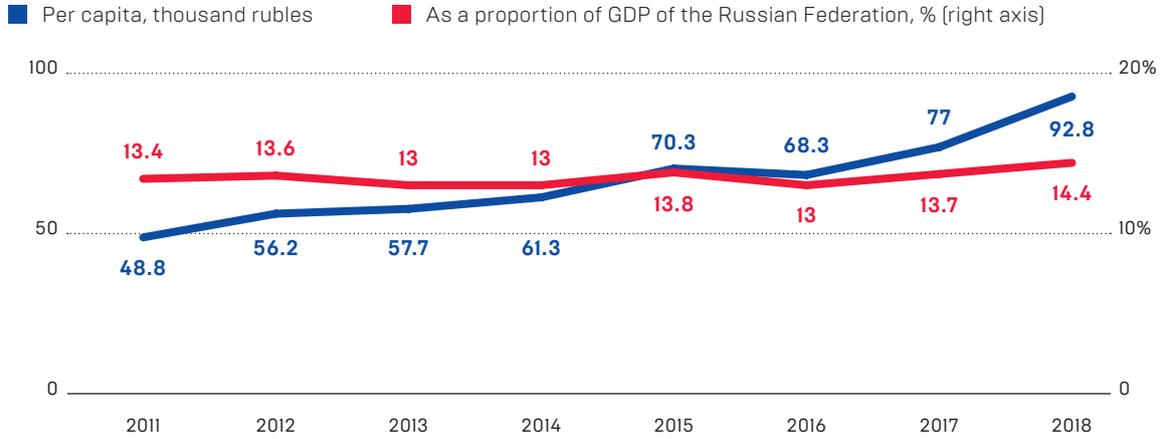
■ Men ■ Women



SDG 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

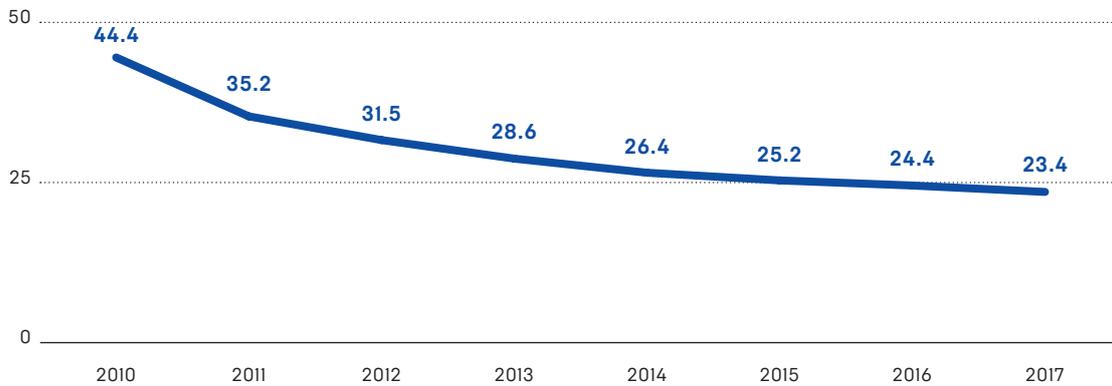
MANUFACTURING VALUE ADDED PER CAPITA AND AS A PROPORTION OF GDP

Rosstat / for the year preceding the previous



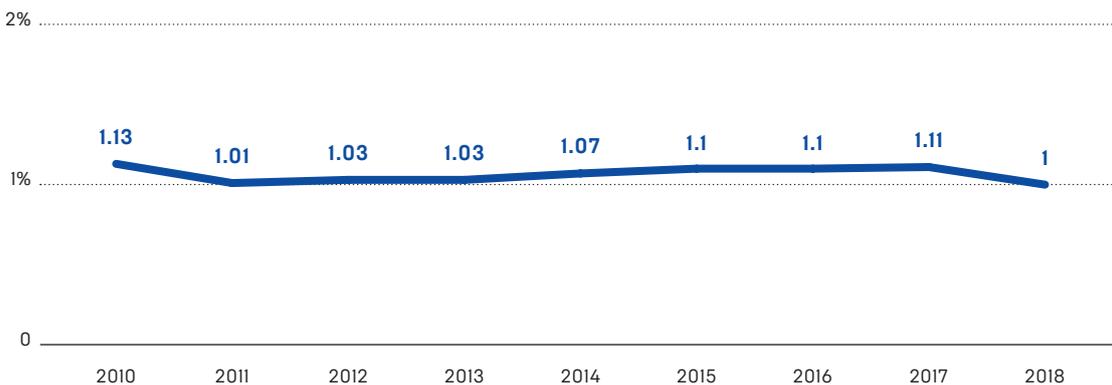
CO₂ EMISSION PER UNIT OF GDP

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation / excluding land use, land use change and forestry, tons per mln rubles



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE AS A PROPORTION OF GDP

Rosstat / % of GDP



THE NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBER STATIONS (SUBSCRIBER UNITS) CONNECTED TO THE NETWORKS

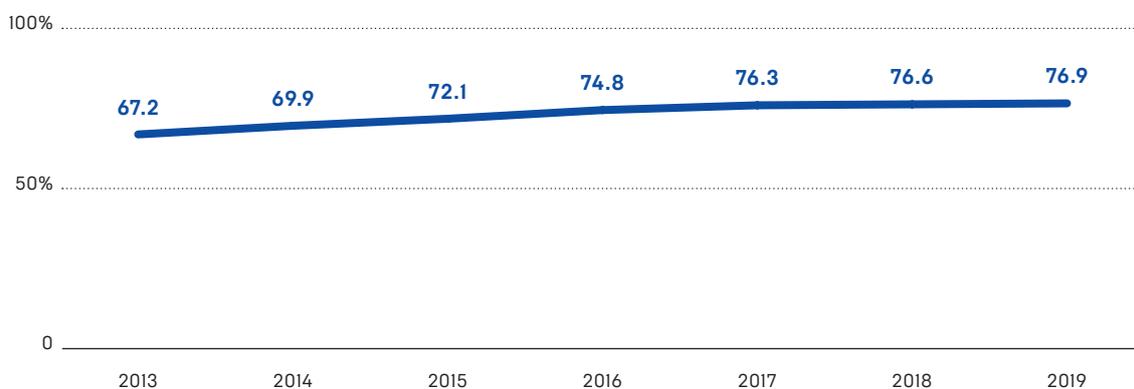
Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation /

at the end of the reporting period, mln units



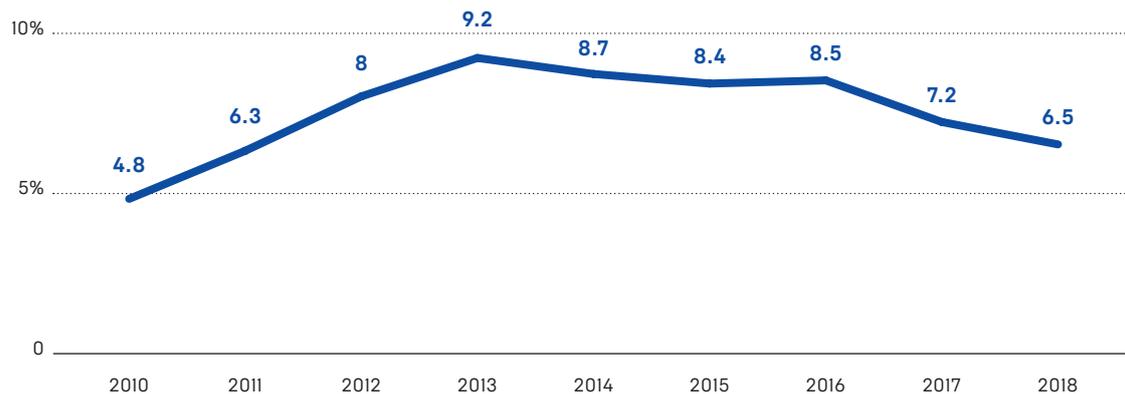
PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH INTERNET ACCESS

Rosstat / in the total number of households, %



PROPORTION OF INNOVATIVE GOODS, WORKS, SERVICES

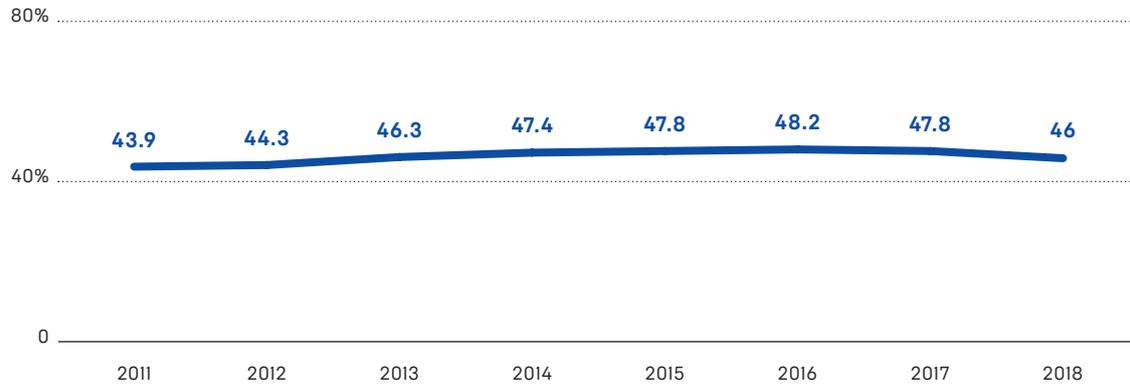
Rosstat / in the total volume of shipped goods, performed works and services, %



SDG 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries

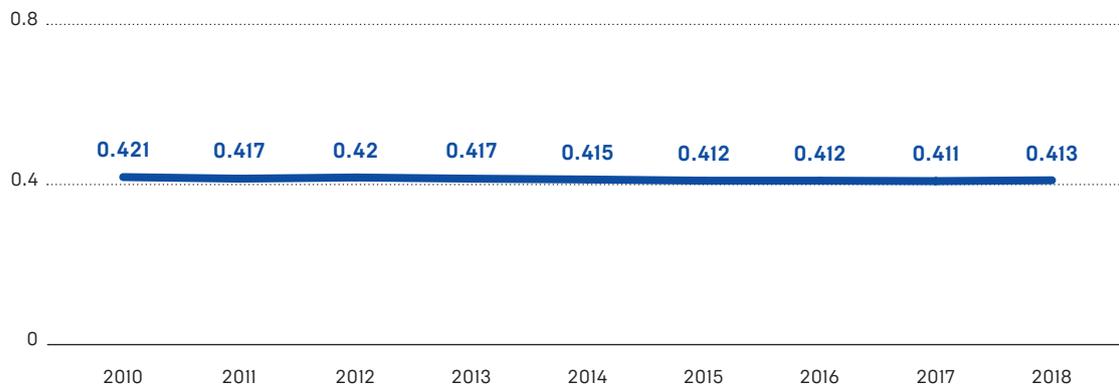
LABOR SHARE OF GDP

Rosstat / comprising wages and social protection transfers, %



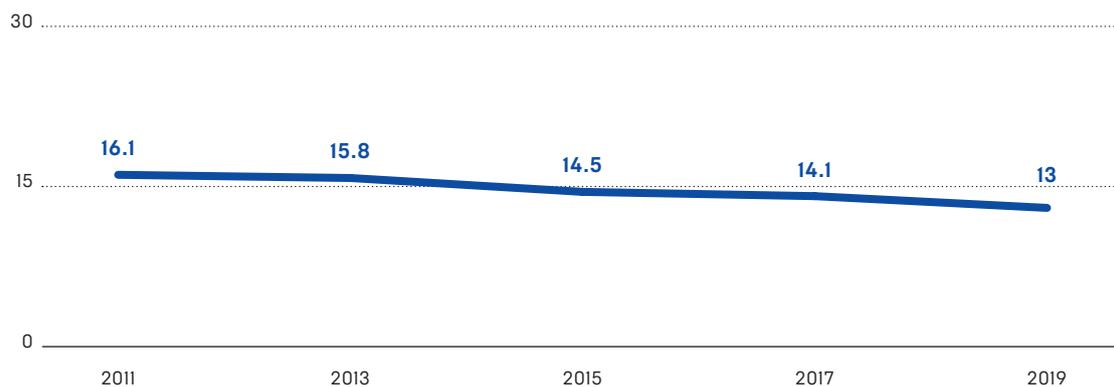
GINI COEFFICIENT

Rosstat



10% HIGHEST PAID TO 10% LOWEST PAID AVERAGE WAGES OF EMPLOYEES OF ORGANIZATIONS

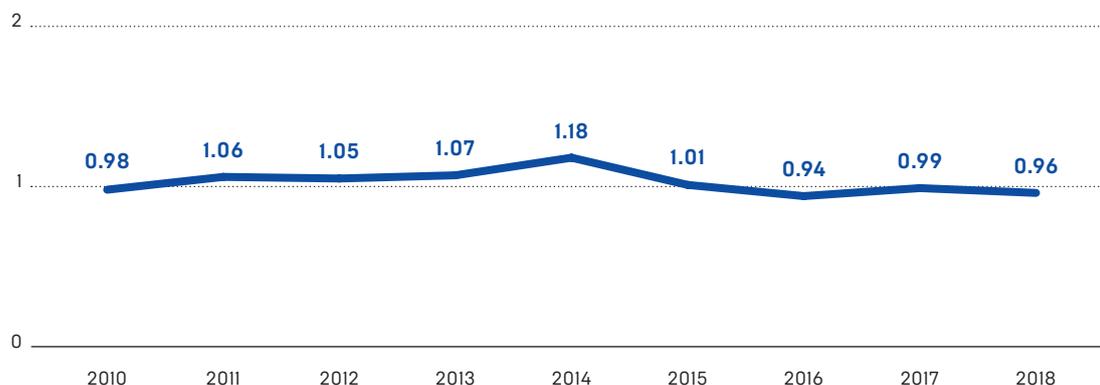
Rosstat / without small-sized businesses, times



SDG 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

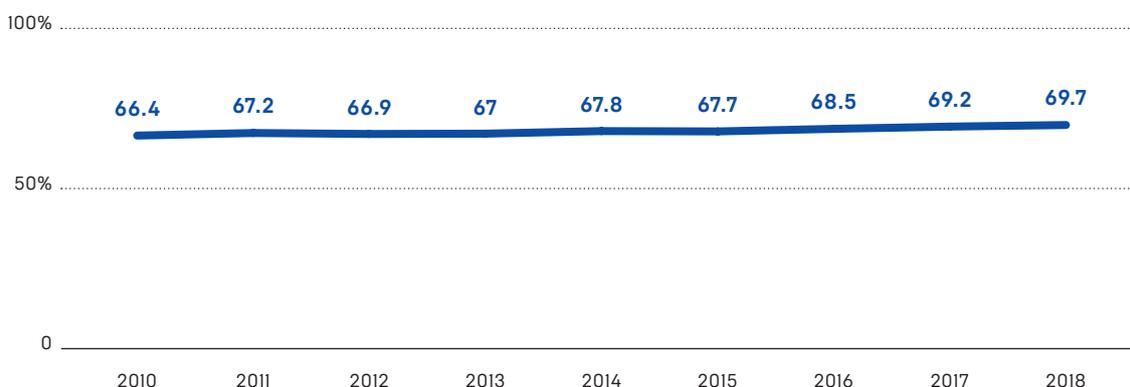
RATIO OF LAND CONSUMPTION RATE TO POPULATION GROWTH RATE

Rosstat / times



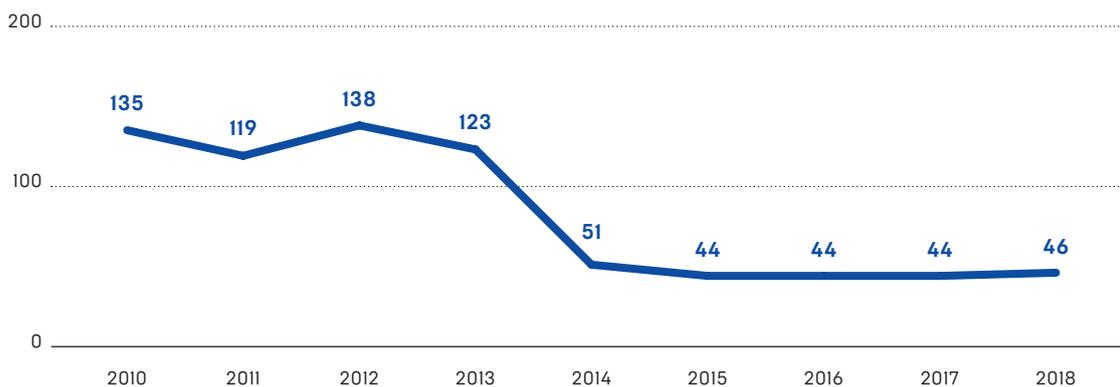
PROPORTION OF TOTAL LENGTH OF THE ILLUMINATED PARTS OF CITY STREETS, DRIVEWAYS, EMBANKMENTS IN THE TOTAL LENGTH OF CITY STREETS, DRIVEWAYS, EMBANKMENTS

Rosstat / %



NUMBER OF CITIES WITH HIGH AND VERY HIGH LEVEL OF AIR POLLUTION

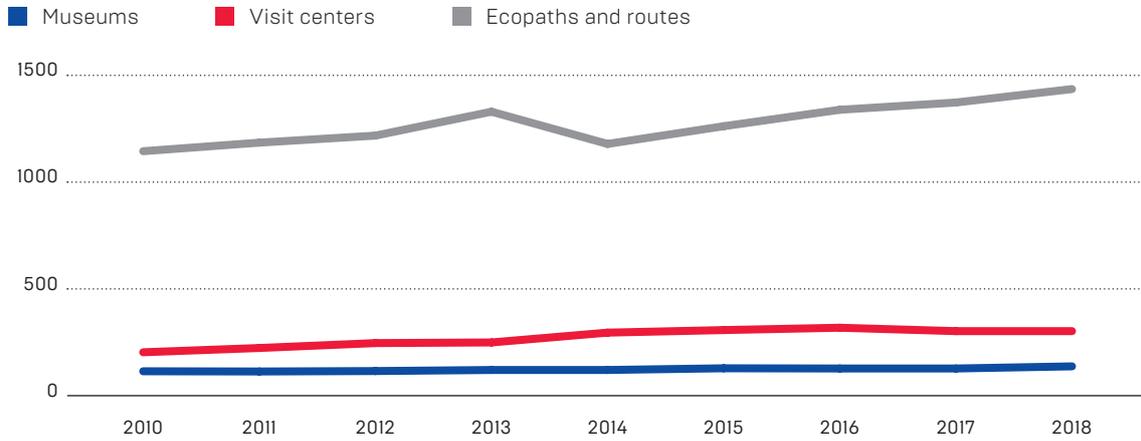
Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring /
since 2014 the air quality standards have changed, units



SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

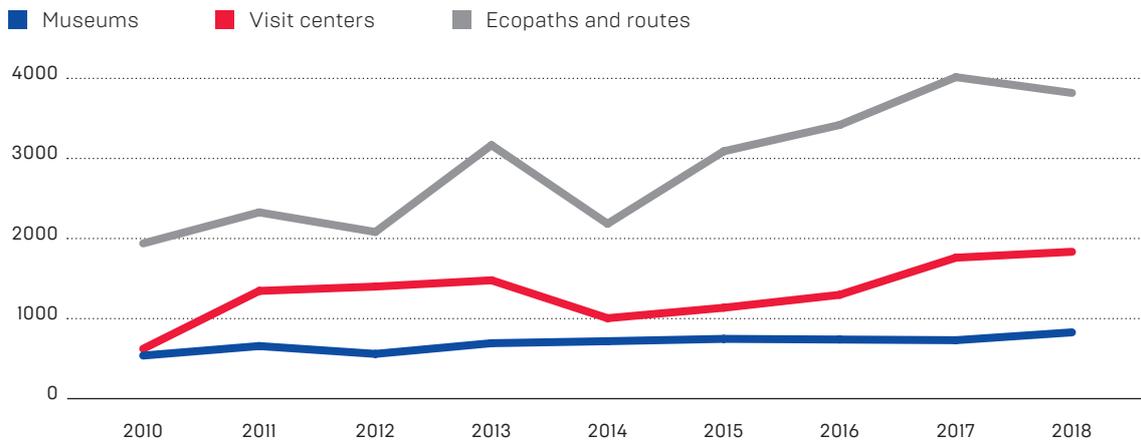
NUMBER OF ECOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND EDUCATIONAL TOURISM

Rosstat / in state natural reserves and national parks, units



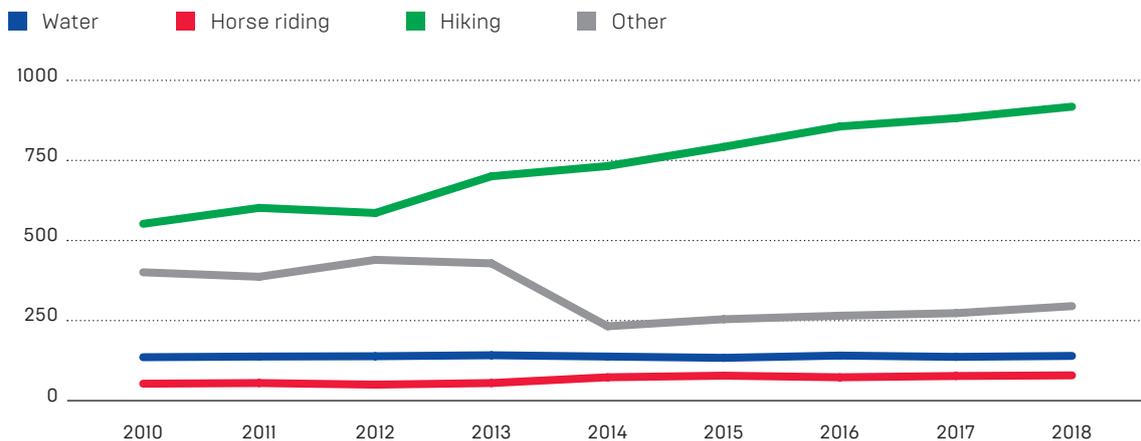
NUMBER OF VISITORS OF ECOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AND EDUCATIONAL TOURISM

Rosstat / in state natural reserves and national parks, thousand people



ECOPATHS AND ROUTES IN STATE NATURAL RESERVES AND NATIONAL PARKS

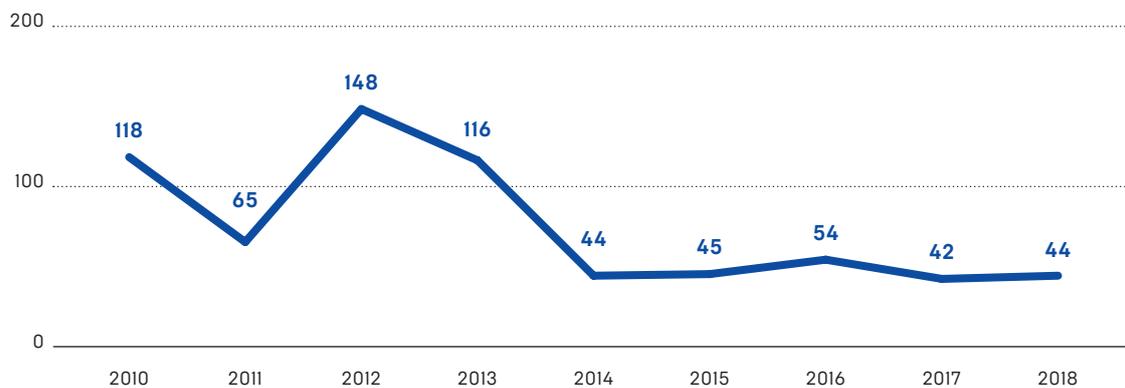
Rosstat / units



SDG 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

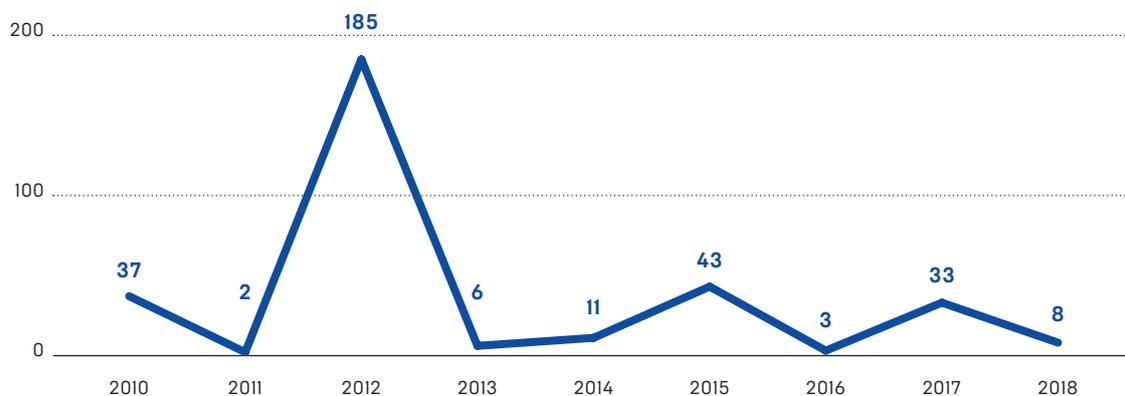
INFORMATION ON THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NATURAL DISASTERS

Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters / units



DEATHS CAUSED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters / people



TOTAL NUMBER OF HAZARDOUS HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENA

Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring / units



EXPENDITURES OF THE CONSOLIDATED BUDGET OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND BUDGETS OF STATE EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS FOR THE PROTECTION OF POPULATION AND TERRITORY FROM NATURAL AND MAN-MADE (ANTHROPOLOGICAL) EMERGENCIES

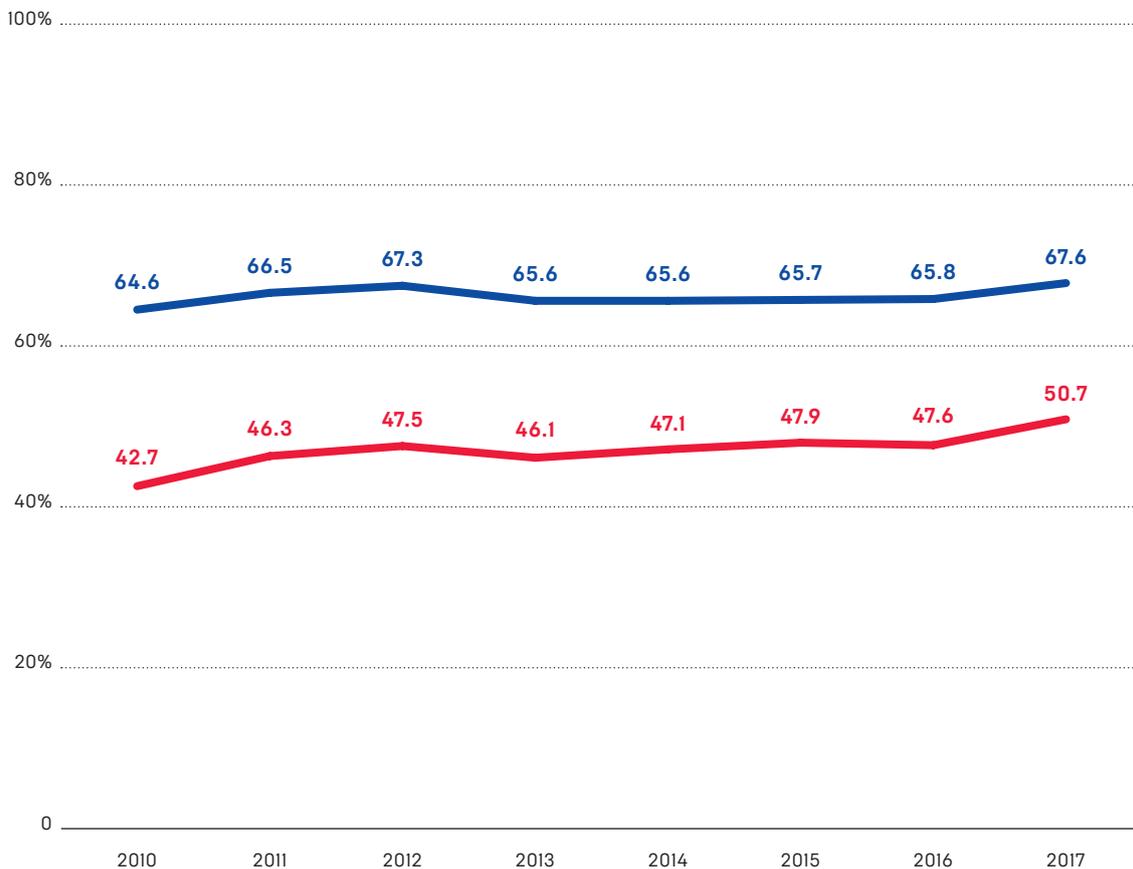
The Federal Treasury / bln rubles



TOTAL GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring / % of 1990

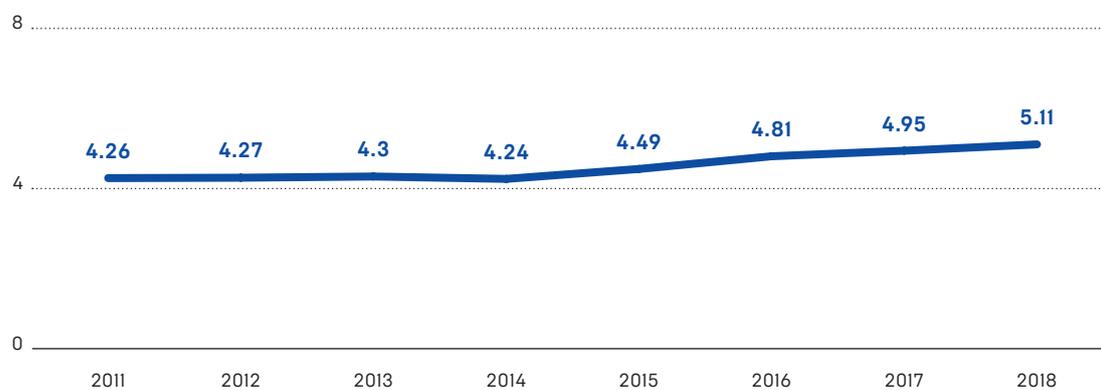
- Excluding land use, land use change and forestry
- Including land use, land use change and forestry



SDG 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

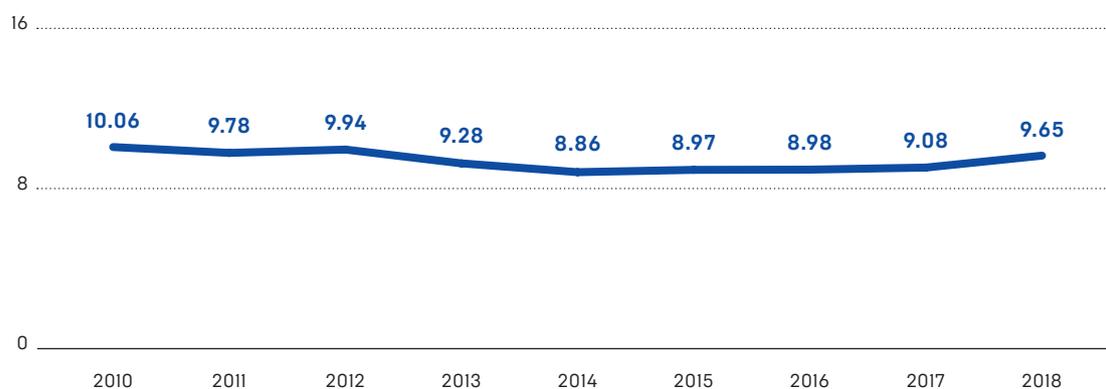
BIOMASS AND ABUNDANCE OF COMMERCIAL STOCKS OF AQUATIC BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Federal Agency for Fishery / mln tons



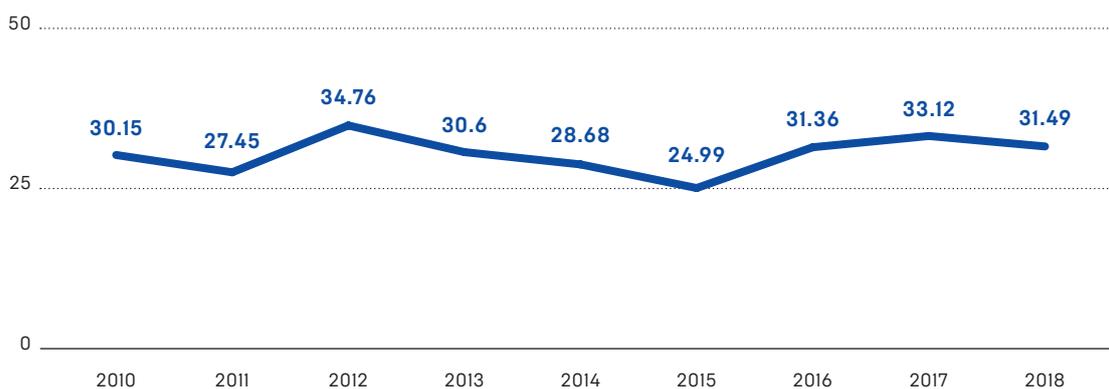
FINGERLING STOCKING INTO FISHERY FACILITIES

Federal Agency for Fishery / bln units



AQUACULTURE FISH SEEDS FARMING

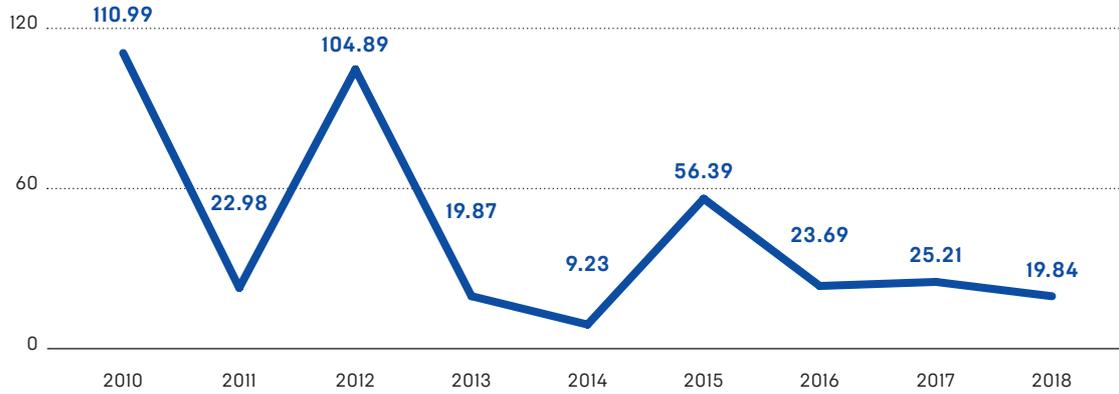
Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation / thousand tons



SDG 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

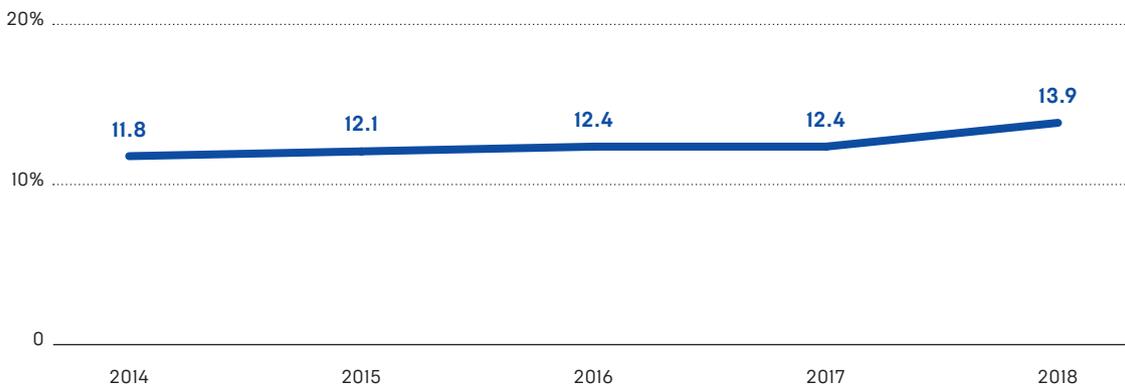
DAMAGE FROM FOREST FIRES

Federal Forestry Agency / bln rubles



PROPORTION OF SPECIALLY PROTECTED FEDERAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL NATURAL AREAS IN THE TOTAL AREA OF THE COUNTRY

Rosstat / %



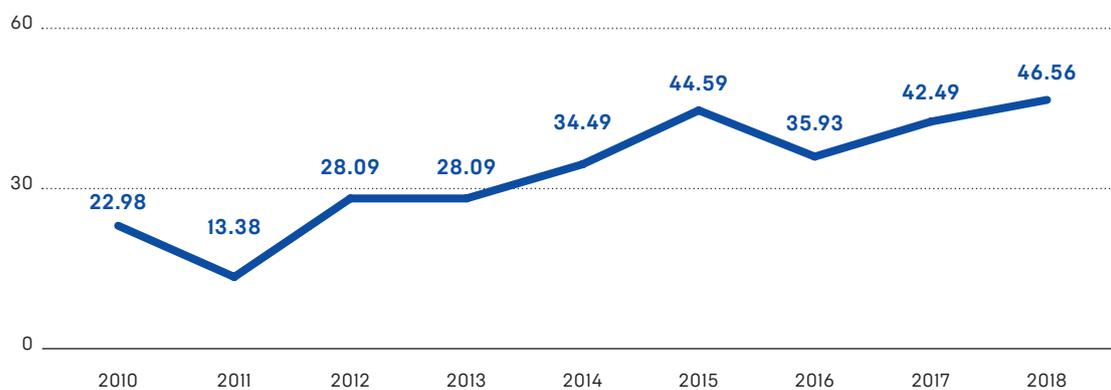
RATIO OF REFORESTATION AND AFFORESTATION AREA TO THE AREA OF FELLED AND LOST FOREST STANDS

Federal Forestry Agency / %



EXPENDITURES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND NATURAL TERRITORIES PROTECTION

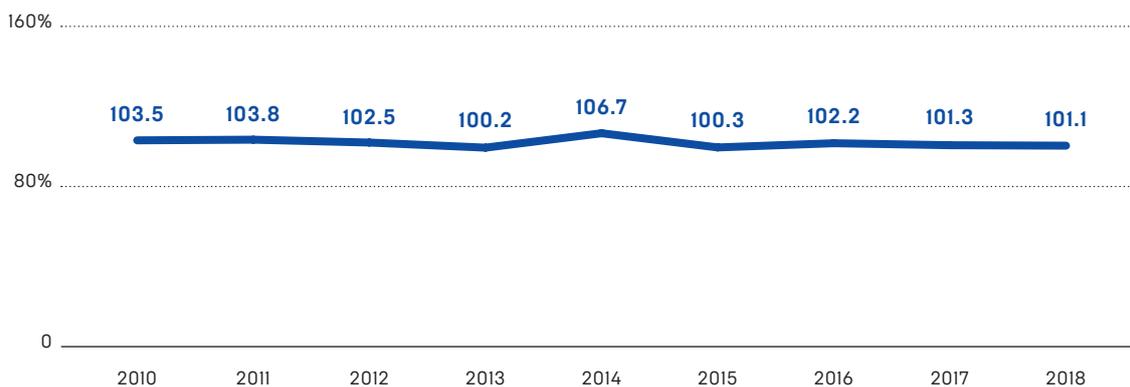
Rosstat / in current prices, bln rubles



SDG 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

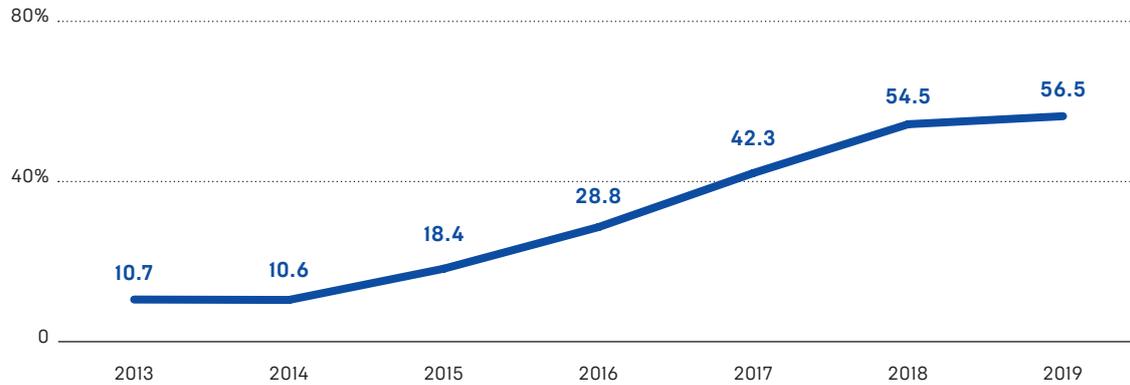
PRIMARY GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES AS A PROPORTION OF ORIGINAL APPROVED BUDGET

Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation / %



PROPORTION OF POPULATION USING THE INTERNET TO RECEIVE STATE AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

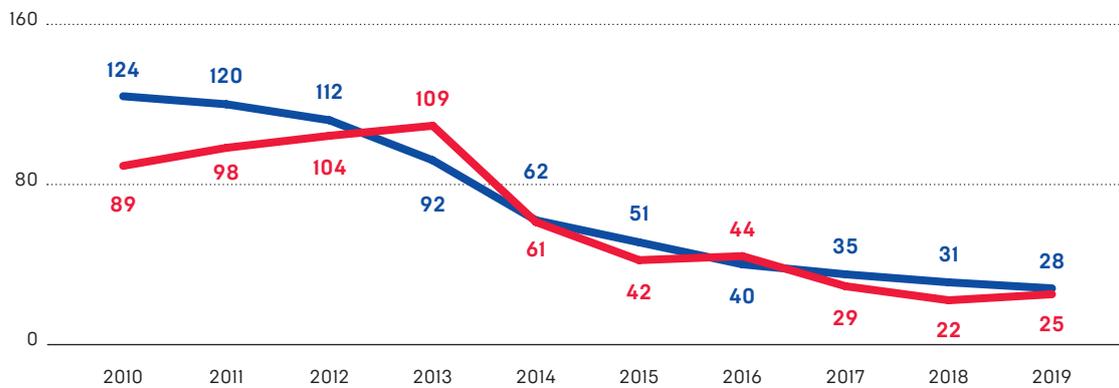
Rosstat / % of the total population aged 15–72



RUSSIA'S POSITION IN "DOING BUSINESS" RANKING

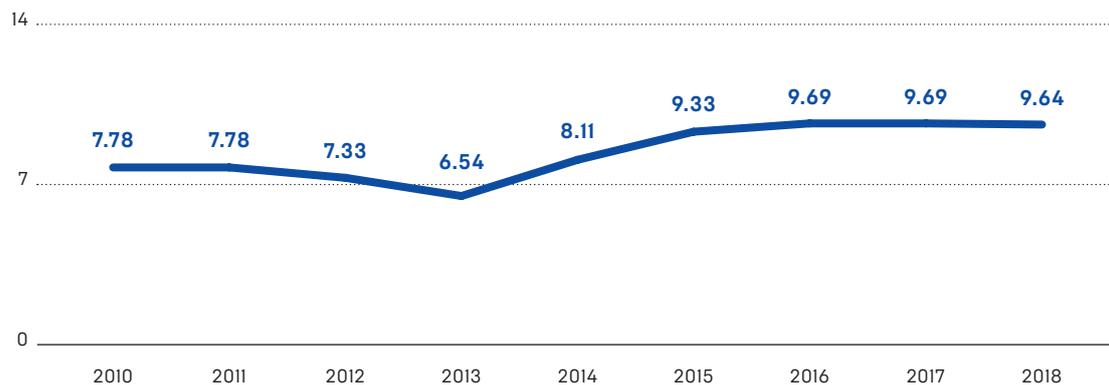
World Bank

■ "Doing business" ranking ■ "Getting credit" ranking



NUMBER OF PERSONS IDENTIFIED AS VICTIMS OF CRIMES AGAINST SEXUAL INVOLABILITY AND PERSONAL SEXUAL FREEDOM

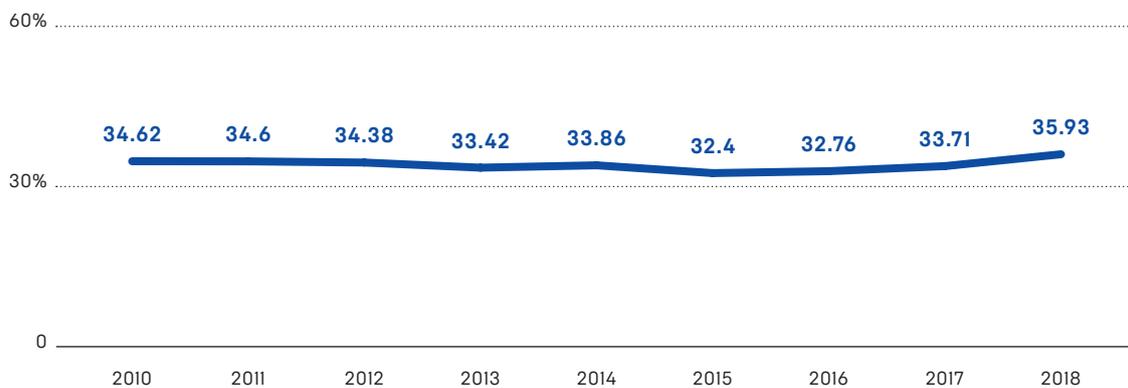
Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Rosstat / per 100,000 population



SDG 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

TOTAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE AS A PROPORTION OF GDP

The Federal Treasury / %



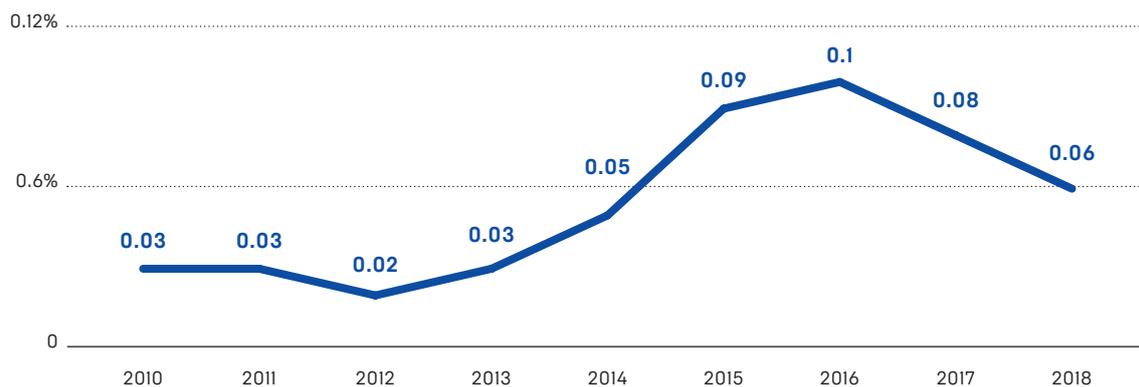
PROPORTION OF NATIONAL BUDGET FUNDED BY DOMESTIC TAXES

The Federal Treasury / %



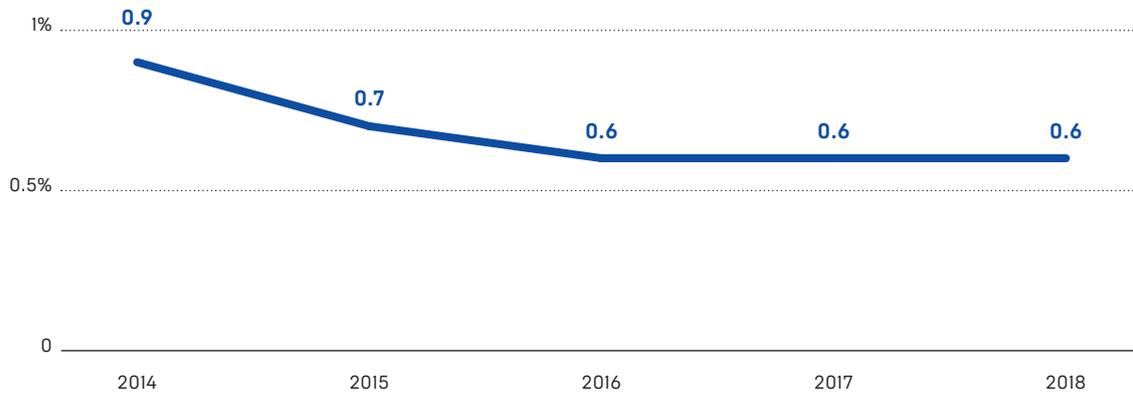
NET OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation / % of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income



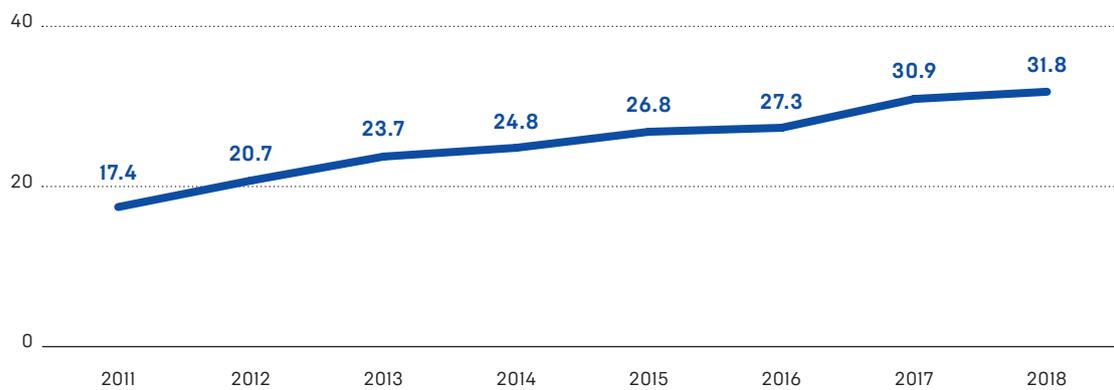
VOLUME OF PERSONAL REMITTANCES AS A PERCENTAGE OF GDP IN NATIONAL CURRENCY

Bank of Russia / %



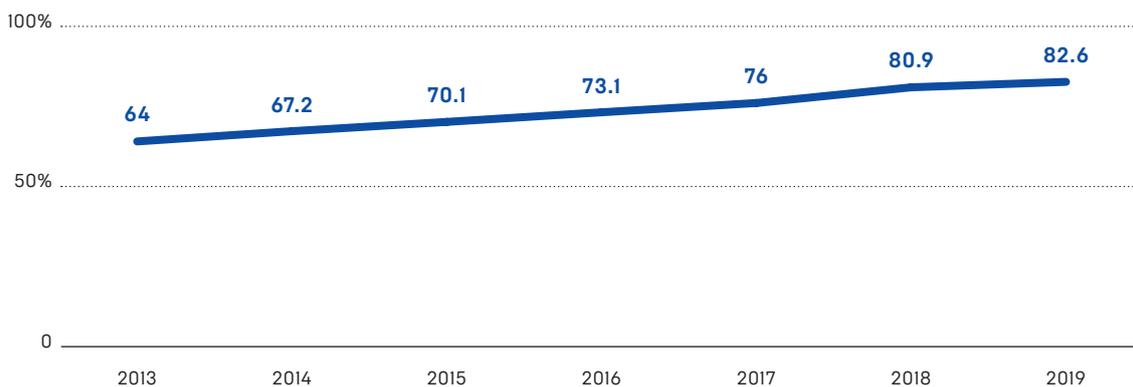
NUMBER OF ACTIVE SUBSCRIBERS OF FIXED BROADBAND ACCESS TO THE INTERNET

Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation /
at the end of the reporting period, mln units



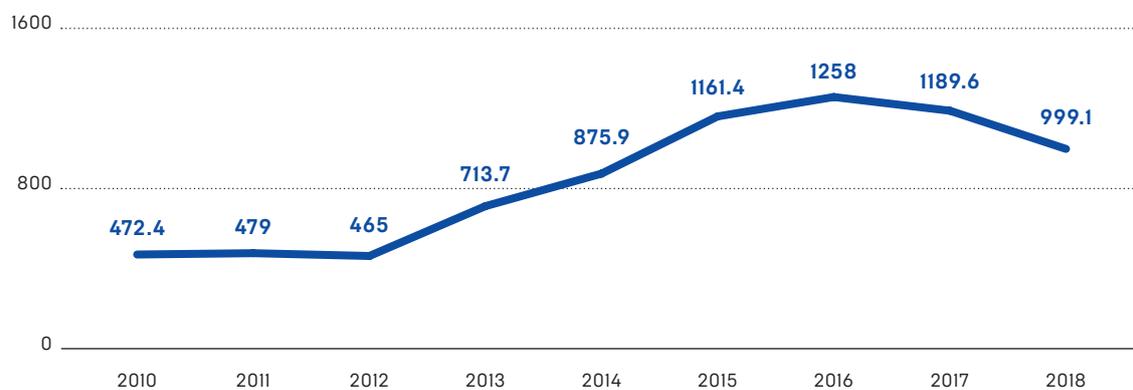
PROPORTION OF INDIVIDUALS USING THE INTERNET

Rosstat / in the total population aged 15–74 (until 2017 – aged 15–72), %



DOLLAR VALUE OF FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

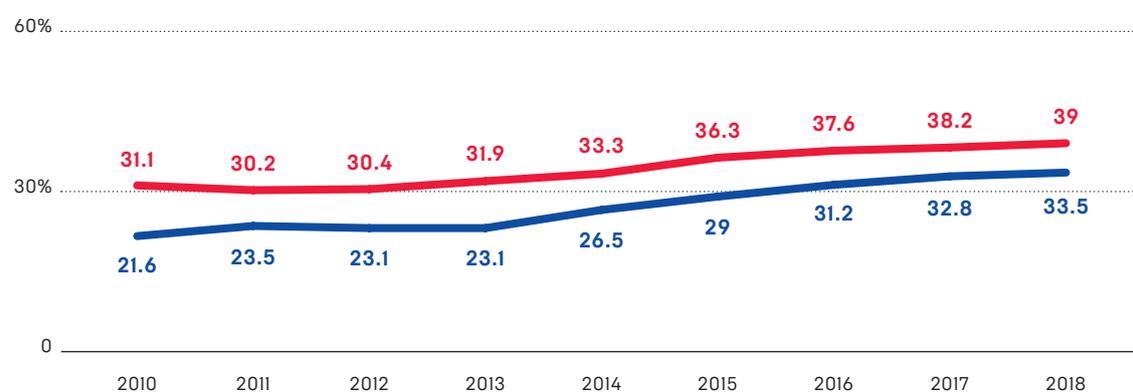
Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation / including assistance through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, mln USD



SHARE OF DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Federal customs service / %

■ Export ■ Import



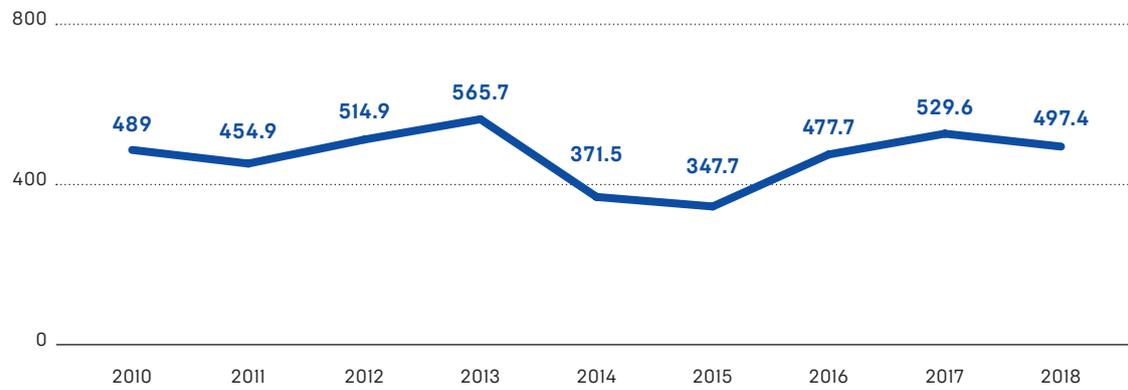
GDP OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION PER CAPITA

Rosstat / PPP, thousand USD



DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Bank of Russia / bln USD



Organizations involved in the preparation of the Voluntary National Review



Government bodies, development institutions

Office of R.S.-Kh. Edelgeriev, the Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation, Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation on Climate Issues

The Central Bank of the Russian Federation

Eurasian Economic Commission

State Duma Committee on Agrarian Issues

State Duma Committee on Issues of Family, Women and Children

State Duma Committee on Security and Corruption Control

State Duma Committee on Federal System and Issues of Local Self-Government

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Health of Russian Federation

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation

Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation

Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States, Compatriots Living Abroad, and International Cultural Cooperation

Federal State Statistics Service

The Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Cartography

Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring

The Federal Service for the Oversight of Consumer Protection and Welfare

Federal Agency for Water Resources

Federal Agency for Fishery

Federal Taxation Service

Federal Institute for Educational Quality Assessment

Main Informational and Analytical Center of the

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

Main Directorate for traffic safety of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

Industrial Development Fund (FSAI Russian Foundation for Technological Development)

Vnesheconombank Institute

Agency for Strategic Initiatives

Scientific and research organizations

Koltzov Institute of Developmental Biology of Russian Academy of Sciences

Institute of Geography of Russian Academy of Sciences

Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation

Space Research Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Institute of International Transport Communications of the Russian University of Transport

Shirshov Institute of Oceanology of Russian Academy of Sciences

A.N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evolution of the Russian Academy of Sciences

A.M. Obukhov Institute of Atmospheric Physics of Russian Academy of Sciences

Kazan Federal University

MGIMO University

Lomonosov Moscow State University

International Institute of Management for Business Associations

Marine Hydrophysical Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences

All-Russian Research Institute for Civil Defence and Emergencies of the EMERCOM of Russia

All-Russian Order "Badge of Honor" Research Institute of Fire Defence EMERCOM of Russia

Research and Consulting Syndicate Cadaster Institute

National Research University Higher School of Economics

The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration

RUDN University

Saratov Socio-Economic Institute of Plekhanov Russian University of Economics

All-Russian Research institute for Silviculture and Mechanization of Forestry

F.F. Erisman Federal Scientific Centre of Hygiene

Federal Scientific Center for Medical and Preventive Health Risk Management Technologies

V.I. Vernadsky Crimean Federal University
 Russian Federal Research Institute
 Of Fisheries and Oceanography
 National Research University
 "Moscow Power Engineering Institute"
 All-Russia Research Institute of Hydrometeorological
 Information – World Data Centre
 Yu. A. Izrael Institute of Global Climate and Ecology
 Scientific Center of Complex Transport Problems
 of Ministry of Transport of Russian Federation
 Russian Academy of Education
 Federal Research Institute for Health Organization
 and Informatics of Ministry of Health
 of the Russian Federation
 V. Serbsky National Medical Research Centre
 for Psychiatry and Narcology of the Ministry
 of Health of the Russian Federation
 Center of Forest Ecology and Productivity
 of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Business (companies and associations)

Zarubezhneft JSC
 Rusatom Overseas JSC
 Russian Copper Company
 Severstal Management
 SUEK JSC
 TVEL JSC
 Commercial Bank "Center-invest" PJSC
 Guild for Sustainable Development, CSR
 and social entrepreneurship of the Moscow
 Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Segezha Group
 The Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation
 Vodokanal of St. Petersburg SUE
 Committee for Nature Management and Ecology
 of the Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 National Association of Concessionaires
 and Long-term Infrastructure Investors
 UC RUSAL
 Rating agency SGM
 Rusatom Infrastructure Solutions JSC
 Expert Index LLC
 Gazprom PJSC
 Gazprom Neft PJSC
 INTER RAO PJSC
 Lukoil PJSC
 PhosAgro

Rosneft Oil Company PJSC
 RusHydro Group
 Severstal PJSC
 Polymetal PLC
 Russian Association of Water Supply and Sanitation
 Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs
 Saint-Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry
 Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd.
 TIARCENTER
 Philip Morris International
 En+ Group IPJSC
 LafargeHolcim

Non-profit and expert organizations, representatives of civil society, international organizations

WWF Russia
 International Sustainable Energy Development
 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO
 All-Russian Congress of Municipalities
 Analytical Centre of Moscow City
 Eurasia Regional Section of the World organization
 "United Cities and Local Governments"
 Commission on the Economics of Climate Change
 and Sustainable Development, formed as part
 of the Russian National Committee of the
 International Chamber of Commerce –
 the World Business Organization (ICC Russia)
 Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO
 Forest Stewardship Council
 National Volunteer Center
 V.I. Vernadsky Non-Governmental Ecological Fund
 Union of Producers and Processors of Wild Plants
 All-Russian public organization for family
 protection "Parent All-Russian Resistance"
 Public Council under the Presidential
 Commissioner for Children's Rights
 Association "MONOTOWNS.RF"
 FAO Liaison Office with the Russian Federation
 Professional community "Women on Boards Russia"
 Federal State Budgetary Institution "Prioksko-
 Terrasny Nature Biosphere Reserve"
 Russian Carbon Fund
 Women's view
 Centre for Environment and Sustainable
 Development "Eco-Accord" (Eco-Accord NGO)

For notes



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