



Photo credit: Tommy Ju, China

ERM's support for the SDGs: summary

[ERM Sustainability Report 2021](#)

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The business of sustainability



SDG summary

ERM's support for the SDGs

The United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, designed to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030

The 17 goals reside within the key document, [Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), and reaching these goals will take everyone's contribution - including government, civil society and business.

ERM has been involved with the SDGs since the start of their development in 2012. We contribute to the SDGs in three ways:

- Through our **work for clients**. We are working with our clients and leading organizations – with the SDGs as a framework – to address sustainable development.
- In **our operations**. ERM strives to operate in a sustainable manner that supports the SDGs.
- Through **collaboration**: including the **ERM Foundation**. The ERM Foundation is committed to making a measurable contribution to the SDGs.



SDG summary

ERM's support for the SDGs

We have mapped the direct and indirect impacts that ERM has on SDG goals and targets across our consulting services, operations, and collaboration



[Click here](#) for more information about ERM's SDG impacts.

SDG summary

SDG impacts from our client projects

- As the largest global pure play sustainability consultancy, we work alongside our clients to address their most pressing sustainability challenges, creating innovative solutions and unlocking commercial opportunities that meet the needs of today while preserving opportunity for future generations.
- We are strengthening our capability in this area through acquisitions and our account teams as they engage with clients and through research and published insights.

ERM services	Corresponding SDGs	SDG 2030 targets	FY21 progress
<p>Projects across ERM's services</p> 	<p>1. No Poverty</p> <p>4. Quality Education</p>	<p>1.5 Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.</p> <p>4.7 Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.</p>	<p>ERM's projects across services can have a positive impact on the poor and vulnerable by reducing exposure to environmental, health and safety risks, from our work with clients to support business resilience and low carbon, equality transition to value and environmental, social and health, safety and wellbeing programs.</p> <p>ERM projects can include a sustainability-related educational component for our clients' employees and other stakeholders, including members of local communities, suppliers and contractors, among others.</p>
<p>Climate project delivery</p> 	<p>3. Good Health and Well-being</p> <p>7. Affordable and Clean Energy</p> <p>9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure</p> <p>14. Life Below Water</p> <p>15. Life on Land</p>	<p>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.</p> <p>7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.</p> <p>9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and intercontinental infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on resilient infrastructure.</p> <p>14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including plastic waste and nutrient pollution.</p> <p>15.2 Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.</p>	<p>ERM's Air Quality Technical Community provides innovative solutions to challenges related to air permitting and compliance, air quality impact assessment, health risk assessment, air monitoring and measurement, and air pollution control engineering and construction.</p> <p>Our Energy and Climate Change Technical Community supports renewable energy projects across sectors and geographies.</p> <p>Impact Assessment: Project Feasibility, Siting, Routing and Planning.</p> <p>Environmental, Social, Health and Sustainability Integration/Reporting/Systems/Management construction, operation and decommissioning.</p> <p>Our Global team of top-of-the-line natural resource practitioners, including terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecologists and scientists, provide expertise in conducting marine, freshwater and terrestrial biodiversity field studies, conducting aerial oil spill assessments, developing species and habitat management plans, designing marine/marine/marine/terrestrial and developing strategies for ecological conservation.</p> <p>ERM's Marine Systems Technical Community provides expertise related to our clients' activities on the coast or in the water's near and ocean.</p> <p>Biodiversity: identifying and developing measures to reduce potential impacts on aquatic and terrestrial biotas.</p>



Photo credit: Juliana Hoch, Brazil

[Click here](#) for more information about the SDG impacts of our client projects.

SDG summary

SDG impacts from our operations

- ERM strives to operate in a sustainable manner that supports the SDGs. We have adopted several policies and programs that directly contribute to the goals, as do our sustainability targets and goals. Of particular note, we have adopted ambitious Science Based Targets and have joined the act4nature biodiversity initiative.
- ERM participates in SDG panels at leading conferences and convened SDG workshops and webinars with companies across geographies and sectors sharing our own experiences of contributing to the SDGs.

ERM material topic	Corresponding SDGs	SDG 2030 targets	FY21 progress
Business conduct & ethics		16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.	Our commitment to combat bribery and corruption is fundamental to how we operate and is embedded into our key systems and programs. For more on the location of anti bribery and corruption related disclosures in this report, see our Anti-Bribery and Corruption link, which includes details of our reporting on Principle 10 - Anti-Corruption. See the section on business conduct & ethics for more details.
Our people	 	4.7 Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development. 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life. 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.	Through our policies, we prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, disability, veteran status or any other category protected by the laws of the communities in which we do business. We include training and skill development across our global operations at all levels within the company. Our sustainability targets include compliance with new starter and refresher training requirements. We also offer voluntary training and awareness on DEI, well-being, and a broad range of sustainability topics. In the past year, our Inclusive Culture Advisory Group has worked to increase engagement across the organization on a range of important issues for our employees. ERM is a signatory of the Women's Empowerment Principles. The ERM Foundation includes "empowering women and girls" as an area of focus for funding projects reflecting the SDGs. We are a signatory of the Black at Work Coalition and committed to taking practical steps to tackle barriers that racial and ethnic minority people face in recruitment and progression, and to make ERM representative of the societies in which we operate. See the sections on Our people and the ERM Foundation for more details.



Photo credit: ERM, China

[Click here](#) for more information about the SDG impacts of our operations.

SDG summary

SDG impacts in collaboration with others

- Through our partnerships with leading organizations, we are committed to making a measurable contribution to the SDGs. ERM participates in SDG panels at leading conferences and convened SDG workshops and webinars with companies across geographies and sectors sharing our own experiences of contributing to the SDGs.
- The SDG goals and targets provide a framework for us to measure our progress in supporting the global sustainable development agenda.

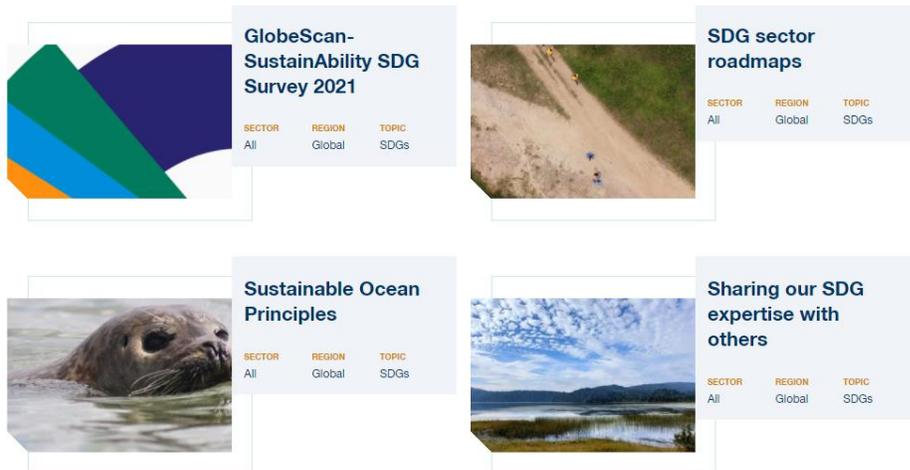


Photo credit: Nico Vermeylen, Belgium

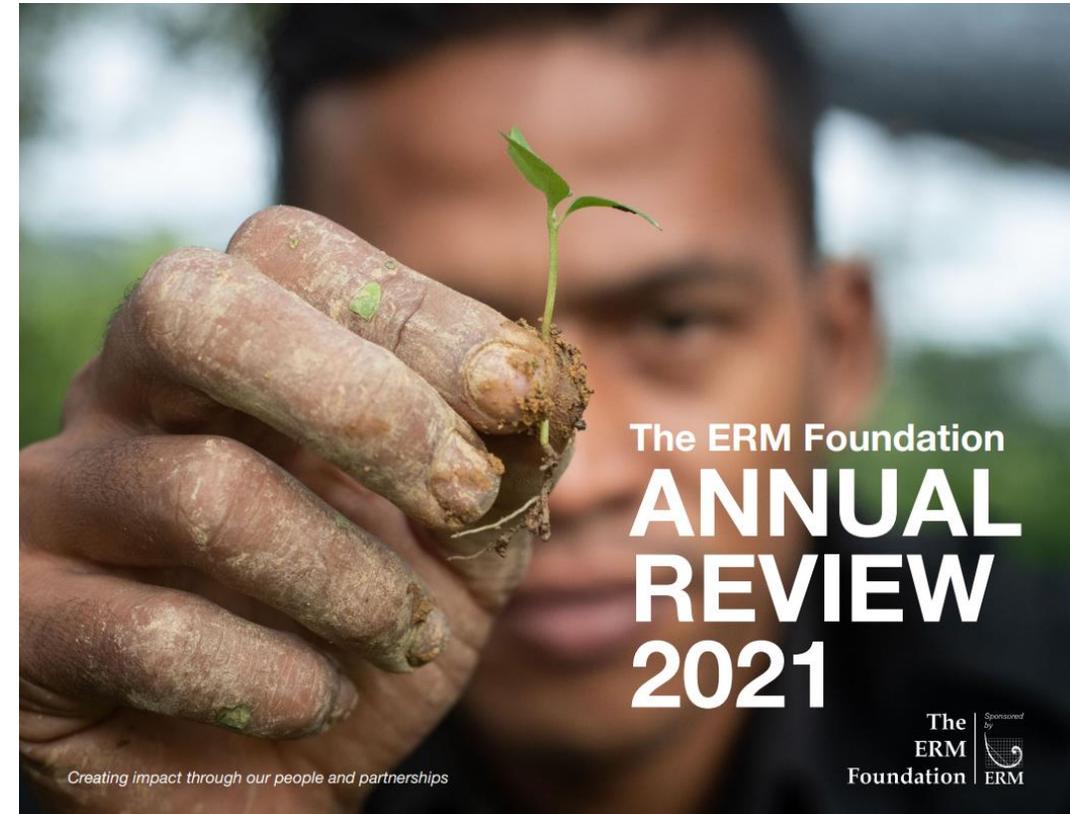
[Click here](#) for more information about the SDG impacts of our collaborations.

SDG summary

SDG impacts from the ERM Foundation

- The ERM Foundation is committed to making a measurable contribution to the SDGs. These Global Goals provide a framework for us to measure and report on the contributions we are making to the global sustainable development agenda
- We have prioritized nine intersecting SDGs that align with our focus areas
 - Biodiversity
 - Climate action
 - Women's livelihoods
 - Clean water and sanitation

Our focus areas	 Protecting and restoring biodiversity	 Low carbon products and services	 Women's livelihoods in the 'green' economy	 Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene
Our FY22 targets	20,000 trees planted 10,000 hectares of forest (and other natural carbon sinks) protected or restored.	5,000 people with improved access to low carbon products, services and initiatives.	1,000 women's livelihoods in the 'green' economy created, supported or improved.	10,000 people with improved access to clean water and sanitation, including menstrual health and hygiene education.
Priority SDGs	 	 	 	
SDG targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and capacity building on climate change mitigation • 15.2 Promote sustainable forest management, and restore degraded forests • 15.C Combat poaching and trafficking of endangered species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.1 Access to affordable, reliable modern energy • 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and capacity building on climate change mitigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.A Give women equal rights to economic resources • 8.5 Ensure decent work for all women (and men), including for young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.1 Access to safe and affordable drinking water • 6.2 Access to equitable sanitation and hygiene



[Click here](#) for more information about the SDG impacts of the ERM Foundation.



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