| 1 | NO POVERTY | 2 | ZERO HUNGER | 3 | GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | 4 | QUALITY EDUCATION | 5 | GENDER EQUALITY | 6 | CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION |

Australian Urban Observatory

Sustainable Development Goals

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Guidance Note

The Australian Urban Observatory is a new digital liveability planning tool, developed by our team from RMIT University's Centre for Urban Research. It has been specifically designed to support decision makers prioritise action and planning that promotes health and wellbeing in their communities.

The AUO maps liveability across Australia's 21 largest cities. These 21 cities, including 8 capital cities and 13 other major regional cities with a population of 80,000 or more, link the AUO to the National Cities Performance Framework. We map to three levels of detail, covering 170 Local Government Areas, over 3,000 Suburbs and nearly 40,000 Neighbourhoods.

The AUO's liveability indicators are underpinned by years of policy-relevant urban research by RMIT University. Research that connects the built environment with public health, social equity, sustainability with all indicators aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Learn more about the AUO and how it can support health and wellbeing in your community in our *AUO Liveability in Action - Research to Impact* briefing document which can be downloaded here.

The AUO can help your community:

- Meet the United Nations **Sustainable Development Goals** through our systems thinking approach to issues of liveability, health and wellbeing, climate change action and social equity.

- Create **specific and measurable targets** to meet planning and policy objectives.

- **Advocate for real change** by providing a clear understanding of where to invest for liveability.

Produced by   Australian Urban Observatory   RMIT UNIVERSITY Centre for Urban Research

How can the AUO help you meet the SDGs?

The AUO connects to many of the SDG goals, foremost amongst these is *Goal 17: Partnership for the Goals.*

The AUO was developed to build partnerships with local, state and federal governments, as well as other important decision makers, to share our research knowledge with practitioners to create real-world impact. The AUO itself is focused on improving liveability, health and wellbeing, climate change action and equity, meaning that other key SDG goals are:

- Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing
- Goal 10: Reducing Inequalities
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 13: Climate Action

Key SDG Targets

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals
Target 17.17 - Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships data, monitoring and accountability

Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing
Target 3.4 - By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
Target 11.3 - By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

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

Goal 10: Reducing Inequalities
Target 10.3 - Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

Goal 13: Climate Action
Target 13.1 - Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Meeting the SDGs with AUO Indicators

✓ Liveability

Our overarching AUO Liveability Index connects to ten of the SDGs:

🚶 Walkability

Our Walkability Indicators are calculated based on three key factors: something to walk to (land use mix and services of daily living); a way to get there (street connectivity); and dwelling density.

The AUO Walkability Indicators connect to three of the SDGs:

AUO Walkability Indicators
- Walkability for Transport Index
- Average dwelling density per hectare
- Average street connectivity per square kilometre
- Average number of daily living destinations within 1600m
- Average distance to closest activity centre

🏛 Social Infrastructure

Our Social Infrastructure Indicators measure community and individual support services such as health, education, early childhood, community development, culture, sport and recreation, parks and emergency services.

The AUO Social Infrastructure Indicators connect to six of the SDGs:

AUO Social Infrastructure Indicators
- Social Infrastructure Index
- Average distance to closest playground

🚆 Transport

Living close to public transport supports health in two significant ways: by encouraging walking and reducing people's dependence on cars. Efficient and accessible public transport reduces inequities by allowing access to services, education and jobs and supports social and community connections - seeing friends and family - for those without a car and people with restricted mobility.

The AUO Transport Indicators connect to four of the SDGs:

AUO Transport Indicators
- Average distance to closest public transport stop
- % of dwellings within 400m of a bus stop
- % of dwellings within 400m of public transport with a regular 30-min weekday service
- Average distance to closest train station
- Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 15-min weekday service
- Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 30-min weekday service
- Average distance to closest bus stop with a regular 45-min weekday service
- % of employed persons using active transport (walking/cycling) as main mode of travel to work
- % of employed persons using public transport as main mode of travel to work
- % of employed persons using a private vehicle as main mode of travel to work

🍎 Food

Local access to fresh food also supports active mobility and less car dependence. Fresh food provides residents with the opportunity to purchase nutritional foods which support healthy eating behaviours and lifestyles.

The AUO Food Indicators connect to five of the SDGs:

AUO Food Indicators
- % of dwellings without any food outlet within 3.2km
- % of dwellings within 1km of a supermarket
- Average distance to closest healthy food outlet (supermarket or greengrocer)
- Average distance to closest fast food outlet
- Average distance to closest café, restaurant or hotel

🍷 Alcohol

Access to alcohol is negatively correlated with health and well-being. Long term and excessive use of alcohol can cause extreme harm to physical and mental health is strongly associated with liver disease, stroke, numerous types of cancer and depression. Harmful drinking, assaults and family violence are also associated with density of venues.

The AUO Alcohol Indicators connect to four of the SDGs:

AUO Alcohol Indicators
- Average number of on-licence alcohol outlets within 400m
- Average number of off-licence alcohol outlet within 800m
- Average distance to closest on-licence alcohol outlet
- Average distance to closest off-licence alcohol outlet

🌳 Public Open Space

Our Pubic Open Space Indicators measure parks and recreational reserves, public gardens, nature reserves, civic areas and promenades where everyone has the right to visit without being excluded due to economic or social conditions.

The AUO Public Open Space Indicators connect to four of the SDGs:

AUO Public Open Space Indicators
- Average distance to closest public open space
- % of dwellings within 400 m or less of public open space
- Average distance to closest public open space larger than 1.5 hectares
- % of dwellings within 400 m of public open space larger than 1.5 hectares
- % of dwellings within 400 m or less distance of any local park (> 0.4 to. < = 1 ha)
- % of dwellings within 800 m of less distance of any neighbourhood park (>1 to <= 5 ha)
- % of dwellings within 400 m of less distance of a neighbourhood recreation park (> 0.5 ha)
- Average distance to closest public open space with a nearby public toilet (within 100 m)

Employment

Our Employment indicators measure local employment through the percentage of employed persons living and working in the same SA3.

When employees live closer to their workplaces, commuting to work using public transport or active mobility is increased. This reduces traffic congestion and emissions from private vehicles which positively supports the environment and physical and mental health.

The AUO Employment Indicators connect to nine of the SDGs:

AUO Employment Indicators
- % of employed persons living and working in the same area

Housing

Our housing affordability indicators are calculated based on the 30:40 ratio - where a household has an income level in the bottom 40% of Australia's income distribution is paying more than 30% of its income in housing costs.

The AUO enables these housing measures to be placed in the context of other liveability indicators, consistent with the understanding that affordable housing is not the same as affordable living.

The AUO Housing Indicators connect to three of the SDGs:

AUO Housing Indicators
- % of dwellings that are government owned or community housing
- % of households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
- % of rental households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
- % of mortgaged households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
- % of rental or mortgaged households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs
- % of households spending more than 30% of household income on housing costs

AUO SDG Targets in detail

Take action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

"The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice."

The SDG Goals are defined in a list of 169 SDG Targets (learn more about the United Nations SDG Goals and Targets here). AUO Indicators are all linked to specific SDG Targets to help you meet the challenges of a sustainable future. We map to three levels of detail, covering 170 Local Government Areas, over 3,000 Suburbs and nearly 40,000 Neighbourhoods. Our indicators show you where the liveability strengths and weaknesses are in your community to identify direction for future investment.

SDG Targets met by the AUO include:

Goal 1: No Poverty
1.2 - By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Goal 2: Zero Hunger
2.1 - By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being
3.3 - By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable disease
3.4 - By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being
3.5 - Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol
3.6 - By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents
3.7 - By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes
3.8 - Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

Goal 4: Quality Education
4.1 - By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
4.2 - By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education
4.4 - By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

Goal 5: Gender Equality
5.1 - End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
5.2 - Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
5.4 - Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
5.a - Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

8.3 - Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

8.9 - By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

Goal 9: Innovation and Infrastructure

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

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

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

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

10.1 - By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average

10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

10.3 - Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

10.4 - Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

11.2 - By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 - By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.4 - Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

11.7 - By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

11.a - Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, per-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning

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

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption

12.3 - By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

12.5 - By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

Goal 13: Climate Action

13.1 - Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.2 - Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

13.3 - Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Goal 15: Life on Land

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

Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

16.6 - Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

16.7 - Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

16.10 - Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

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

17.16 - Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

17.19 - By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

AUO + Voluntary Local Reviews

"*The value of the VLR, rests not simply in the final report but in the processes of engagement and partnership forged through co-creation of review and action.*"

Voluntary Local Reviews provide a mechanism for local and regional governments to evaluate their progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Using the AUO indicators, our research team can develop a Voluntary Local Review with your organisation, helping you understand how your community is tracking against the Sustainable Development Goals and what more needs to be done. Learn more about Voluntary Local Reviews here.

Contact the AUO to learn more about how we can help you prepare a Voluntary Local Review for your community.

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