FOCUS2030

A 2030 objectives framework for Flanders

Vlaamse Regering

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1 THE CONTEXT

In autumn 2015 and spring 2016, two important texts were published that made Flanders look to the future: the UN Resolution ***'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'*** and '**Vision 2050 – A long-term strategy for Flanders**'.

1.1 THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The UN Resolution starts from **challenges and opportunities for our world today**:

"We are meeting at a time of **immense challenges** to sustainable development. Billions of our citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity. There are rising inequalities within and among countries. There are enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power. Gender inequality remains a key challenge. Unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, is a major concern. Global health threats, more frequent and intense natural disasters, spiralling conflict, violent extremism, terrorism and related humanitarian crises and forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades. Natural resource depletion and adverse impacts of environmental degradation,

including desertification, drought, land degradation, freshwater scarcity and loss of biodiversity, add to and exacerbate the list of challenges which humanity faces. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development. Increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States. The survival of many societies, and of the biological support systems of the planet, is at risk."

"It is also, however, a time of **immense opportunity**. Significant progress has been made in meeting many development challenges. Within the past generation, hundreds of millions of people have emerged from extreme poverty. Access to education has greatly increased for both boys and girls. The spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy."

In order to address these challenges and to seize the opportunities, the UN Resolution outlines a **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** (2030 ASD).
The 2030 ASD is a transformative agenda and has '**leaving no-one behind**' as one of its main principles.

The preamble to the resolution puts it this way: "We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind."

The **17 Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) demonstrate the ambitions of the 2030 ASD, which states the following on this subject: "The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet".
The 2030 ASD then lists the so-called 5 Ps as the areas of critical importance: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

People
We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

Planet
We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

Prosperity
We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

Peace
We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

Partnership
We are determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people."

The SDGs ensure a balance between the three dimensions of sustainable development (the economic, social and environmental dimensions) and form a kind of **integrated, indivisible and universal action plan for peace, people, planet, prosperity and partnership**:

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

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

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

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

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

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

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

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

Reduce inequality within and among countries

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

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

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

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

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

1.2 VISION 2050 - A LONG-TERM STRATEGY FOR FLANDERS

Vision 2050 starts with the question as to whether, in the light of the current social problems and uncertainties, it is responsible to be thinking of 2050 today. The answer is yes. The Government of Flanders is "convinced that looking ahead, working together and helping to shape a number of evolutions and transitions is important. Change is inevitable but we can also shape our future." According to the Government of Flanders, focusing on a policy for the future "makes us think deeply about the world of today and Flanders' position, about where we are coming from and where we are going and where we want to go, about our strengths and our challenges. A broader time perspective casts a different light on the questions that we are currently thinking about." Vision 2050 takes as its starting point a thorough environmental analysis of the international trends and megatrends and is already studying visible change processes with a broad scope and with major, far-reaching implications for **tomorrow's world**:

- demographic trends: population growth, ageing and rejuvenation, migration
- scientific and technological trends: the emergence of disruptive and exponential technologies, driven by science and innovation. A number of breakthroughs can make a substantial contribution to improving our quality of life.
- environmental trends: climate change and the burden on natural resources
- economic trends: disruptions due to technological breakthroughs, the shift of the world's economic centre of gravity to the East, industrial transformation, new relationships between producers and consumers
- political and governance trends: changing geopolitical relationships, the transformation of governments and institutions
- social trends: individualisation and diversity.

Vision 2050 summarises Flanders' **ambition** as follows: "**To create prosperity and well-being in a smart, innovative and sustainable way, in a social, open, resilient and internationally-connected Flanders, in which every individual counts**.". This ambition complements seamlessly the firm intention of the 2030 ASD "to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path". Vision 2050 builds on the international approach to sustainable development along three dimensions (economic, social and environmental). It states the following: "We want to achieve this ambition with a new economy, for an inclusive society and within the ecosystem boundaries of our planet. We therefore want to evolve towards sustainable production and consumption within the planetary and social boundaries." The ambition will be translated into a **future vision for 2050** for the three dimensions and nine themes, but also into **opportunities** and **challenges** for Flanders. The opportunities indicate the aspects in which Flanders is strong and where it is already evolving towards the desired vision for the future. The challenges describe which changes are needed to overcome the difficulties on the path to 2050.

In Vision 2050, the Government of Flanders also introduces a new approach for realising its vision for the future: "Major change is necessary to achieve this vision. It is important to make the right choices and focus on the priorities that are crucial for this transformation. The Government of Flanders has therefore defined seven **transition priorities**, that have an impact on each other and are interwoven.. [...] By focusing on transition priorities, we want to contribute to achieving the vision for Flanders in 2050. In so doing, we also wish to anticipate disruptive changes and major

social challenges, e.g. the increasing digitisation, ageing and internationalisation with which Flanders is confronted. We can only provide a response to social problems with profound and radical change. Moreover, we create new opportunities by thinking and acting in a new and different way. That is why the Government of Flanders is fully focusing on transitions. These are structural changes with a great impact on society. They are the outcome of developments that reinforce each other at the economic, cultural, ethical, technological, environmental, social and institutional level. Transitions need time, because they are such radical changes."
The transition priorities of Vision 2050 can be regarded as accelerators in the realisation of the 2050 ambition. The objectives they contain are usually more operational in nature, but they will of course contribute to the achievement of the 2030 ASD.

1.3 VISION 2050 AND THE SDGS ARE INTERRELATED

Vision 2050 and the SDGs **are strongly interrelated.** Sustainability is a guiding principle for Vision 2050, which is the third Flemish Sustainable Development Strategy.

Vision 2050 also explicitly endorses the SDGs: "The vision for the future is aimed at Flanders, but Europe and the rest of the world are evolving in the same direction. Flanders is contributing to this by focusing on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030, which outline the desired future for the world as a whole. Achieving these SDGs at the global level is a necessary condition for achieving the vision for Flanders by 2050. In this respect, it is important that Flanders focuses on SDG 17, namely "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development". But obviously Flanders endorses all 17 SDGs of the United Nations, and their target date, namely 2030."

Vision 2050 and the SDGs also have a **similar underlying view and structure**. The economic, socio-cultural and environmental dimensions that are a common theme in Vision 2050 correspond to the original 3 Ps that form the basis of the SDGs: *prosperity* , *people* and *planet* . The themes of Vision 2050 "largely coincide with the needs of our society and are founded on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals for 2030." By analogy, according to the 2030 ASD, strong institutions are part of and a prerequisite for peace, the fourth P. Partnership and cooperation are not just the fifth P of the 2030 ASD, they are also crucial in Vision 2050: "The vision for 2050 aims to strike a balance between realism and progress optimism. It would be unrealistic to believe that all the problems that Flanders contends with today will have disappeared in 2050, nor can we believe that there will not be any new problems. We do however trust that we can solve these problems by working together and using human ingenuity."

Some innovative aspects and concepts of **Vision 2050** are **clearly more ambitious** than the SDGs. Examples include open science, learning parks, circular economy, sharing economy, short-chain agriculture. The focus on disruptive changes in Vision 2050 is also less marked in the SDGs. This is logical given the time horizon: 2050 for Vision 2050 and 2030 for the SDGs.
Vision 2050 also recognises more explicitly the **value of softer themes** such as sport and culture on the road to an inclusive, sustainable society: "We invest in the maximum development of everyone's talent to guarantee this, while never losing sight of the community-building force of all cultural aspects, including sport and media." and "Culture provides a connected society. It mobilises people, contributing to social capital and talent development. Culture promotes social

awareness and imagination, but at the same time people also acquire knowledge and experience in various fields. Society therefore also offers guarantees for the social and cultural (basic) rights, and their deployment and activation for its members, while also striving for community building around common, shared values such as freedom, equality, solidarity, respect and citizenship."

2 A FLEMISH 2030 OBJECTIVES FRAMEWORK

2.1 BASED ON THE SDGS AND LINKED TO VISION 2050

The SDGs and their targets are global in nature and universally applicable. However, they also take into account the different national realities, capacities and levels of development, respecting national policies and priorities. The UN Resolution states the following in this respect: "Targets are defined as aspirational and global, with each Government

setting its own national targets guided by the global level of ambition but taking into account national circumstances."

The 2030 ASD therefore calls on Member States to take forward the implementation of the SDGs. For this reason, Flanders has compiled an **SDG implementation agenda**[1]:

1. developing a clear long-term vision aligned with the SDGs
2. translating it into a Flemish SDG framework and defining Flemish 2030 objectives
3. implementing the 2030 objectives
   3.1. analysing gaps to target
   3.2. determining and carrying out remedial actions
   3.3. supporting good practices
4. developing an appropriate monitoring and reporting system
5. integrating the SDGs into the internal operation, management and instruments of public institutions
6. cooperating with cities, municipalities and provinces
7. pursuing adapted stakeholder management and engaging in new partnerships

Vision 2050 implements the first part of the SDG implementation agenda. With Focus 2030 and an accompanying set of indicators, we further flesh out the second and fourth parts.

The SDG framework is comprehensive and with its 169 targets also detailed. In addition, the SDGs are integrated and indivisible. When translating them into Flemish 2030 objectives, we must therefore not engage in cherry picking, but rather make sure that we do not lose sight of the ambition of both the 2030 ASD and Vision 2050.

With this 2030 objectives framework, we not only want to transpose the 2030 ASD for Flanders by basing the objectives on the SDGs and their underlying targets, we also want to link explicitly the framework to Vision 2050.
In order to clarify the link with Vision 2050, we are clustering the Flemish 2030 objectives according to the dimensions and a precondition of Vision 2050: for an inclusive society, via a new economy, within the environmental boundaries of the planet, with an open and agile government in partnership. This clustering is also in line with the 5 Ps of the 2030 ASD.

[1] Communication to the Government of Flanders of 28/10/2016 (VR 2016 2810 MED.0419/1)

We can state that Vision 2050 and the 2030 ASD together with the SDGs are both the reason and the foundation for the Flemish 2030 objectives framework. Vision 2050 recognises that we cannot predict Flanders' future with any certainty and that this unpredictability may mean that we will have to adjust our vision for the future of Flanders gradually. On the other hand, Flanders will already have achieved certain aspects of this vision for the future before 2050. Vision 2050 does not, however, contain any mid-term objectives, whereas this 2030 objectives framework will. The SDGs and their targets form the starting point and Vision 2050 outlines the future on which we must focus. In this way, the 2030 objectives will become an intermediate step towards the Flanders we want to realise in 2050. We visualise this by linking the three dimensions and nine themes of the text passages of Vision 2050 to the 2030 objectives (see chapter 3) in Appendix 3, both with regard to the vision for the future and for the opportunities and challenges. The SDGs which are reflected in the 2030 objectives are also shown. The appendix indicates that many objectives are an intermediate step in the realisation of several parts of Vision 2050 and a translation of more than one SDG; this perfectly illustrates the integrated nature of the Flemish 2030 objectives.

2.2 FOCUS ON FLANDERS

The SDGs and their targets apply to all UN member states. Several targets of the SDGs are, however, clearly aimed at developing countries or international cooperation. These are targets with an external dimension.
We opt to keep Flanders' contributions to the external realisation of the 2030 ASD outside the Flemish 2030 objectives framework as much as possible. The reason is that these contributions are mainly demand-driven and therefore difficult to determine for the period up to 2030.
A general objective on the contribution to official development assistance should confirm our commitment to the external dimension of the 2030 ASD. Moreover, on 18 November 2016, the Government of Flanders approved the concept paper "Flemish Development Cooperation in 2030". In this concept paper the Government of Flanders transposed Agenda 2030 to Flemish development cooperation and updated its vision on development cooperation.

The targets with an internal dimension are objectives that must be implemented within the member states themselves. **For the internal dimension, we focus on the objectives that pertain to the Flemish competences** and on which we subsequently have an impact. Some targets overlap or show strong similarities, allowing aggregation.

SDG 17 and many of the targets of the other SDGs deal with the means of implementation required to achieve the ambitions of the 2030 SDA. We choose not to include means of implementation and policies in the Flemish 2030 objectives framework. Achieving the objectives does, however, presuppose that appropriate policy frameworks are put in place.

2.3 COMPLETED BY THE 2030 OBJECTIVES OF THE LONG-TERM POLICY PLANS IN PREPARATION

The 2030 ASD calls on governments to set their own targets, but also states: "Each Government will also decide how these aspirational and global targets should be incorporated into national planning processes, policies and strategies. It is important to recognize the link between sustainable development and other relevant ongoing processes in the economic, social and environmental fields."

Many of the objectives from the 2030 ASD are set out in long-term sectoral policies that are being drawn up. For example, the Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030 will cover SDGs 7 and 13 in full and SDG 11 in part. The Spatial Policy Plan Flanders will include objectives relating to SDGs 9, 11 and 12, the Mobility Plan objectives relating to SDGs 3, 9 and 11, and the Air Plan objectives relating to SDGs 3, 11 and 12. We have chosen to let these plans follow their own development path. Following the adoption of these long-term policy plans, their 2030 objectives will form an integral part of this 2030 objectives framework and thus complete it. **The 2030 objectives framework and the associated indicators are thus adjusted on the basis of these (new) long-term policy plans and after evaluation by the next Government of Flanders**.

3 FLEMISH 2030 OBJECTIVES

... for an inclusive society		
1	By 2030, the proportion of families living in poverty and facing social exclusion shall remain among the lowest compared to the best performing countries in Europe, and the number of people living in poverty will have decreased.	
2	By 2030, we shall be healthier in terms of nutrition, physical activity and mental health and have more well-being (with a specific focus on suicide and addiction including use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs and gambling).	
3	In 2030, there shall be a sports mentality in Flanders so that healthy sports and active exercise are a habit in our daily lives, partly inspired by the physical activity triangle.	
4	In 2030, with a view to fair and relevant care and support, Flanders shall provide a sufficiently accessible and affordable, efficient and high-quality range of care and support in the light of changing societal needs and social demographic developments.	
5	By 2030, every Flemish person has the right, through the Flemish Social Protection, to the financing of care that allows him or her, taking into account his or her vulnerabilities and support needs, to maintain or regain autonomy and control as much as possible, that meets the needs, demands and objectives of the person in need of care and his or her immediate environment, and that strives for the quality of life, with automatic rights allocation as much as possible. By 2030, the Flemish Social Protection shall be adapted to the increasing societal needs, in particular due to the ageing of the population.	
6	By 2030, every family in need of childcare has the right to a qualitative, available, affordable, inclusive and directly accessible provision for every child without discrimination, taking into account the social function of childcare.	
7	In 2030, all young children (2.5 to 5 year olds) shall participate in pre-school education.	
8	In 2030, Flanders shall ensure equal access to primary education, secondary education, higher education and adult education, and we will offer maximum learning opportunities for every learner.	
9	By 2030, we shall be providing a quality provision and ensure a quality infrastructure, learning environment and teachers at the various education providers (at all levels of education).	

10	By 2030, training at all levels of education shall provide a solid foundation of knowledge, skills and attitudes that shall enable learners to develop themselves and participate fully in society, to promote sustainable development in all its dimensions and to rapidly pick up on new developments. This means that secondary education, higher education and adult education also prepare for sustainable employability in the labour market.	
11	By 2030, training offered by training providers (outside education) shall focus on both lifelong and life-wide learning, providing a solid foundation of knowledge, skills and attitudes which, in addition to competences, will also promote the adaptability and social participation of learners.	
12	By 2030, all young people shall have the opportunity to complete at least quality secondary education, achieving relevant and effective learning outcomes, and outflow without qualifications will be significantly reduced.	
13	By 2030, three times as many adults shall be attending formal or non-formal education or training as in 2015.	
14	By 2030, we shall be aiming for a proportional participation of disadvantaged groups (target groups in equal opportunities and integration policy) in all aspects of social life in Flanders.	
15	By 2030, Flanders shall substantially reduce social inequalities in health and well-being. This shall be done by contributing, within the Flemish competences, to the 25% reduction of the current differences in life expectancy in good health and well-being between people according to their position on the social ladder.	
16	By 2030, Flanders aims to achieve a sufficient knowledge of Dutch for every person who has settled in Flanders for a long time.	
17	In 2030, Flanders shall recognise competences and qualifications as a learning society, wherever they are acquired.	
18	By 2030, 80% of the homes shall meet the minimum safety, health and residential quality standards.	
...via a new economy		
19	By 2030, Flanders shall guarantee SMEs equal access to resources, land, knowledge, financial services, capital and markets, so that they can offer added value and generate employment.	
20	By 2030, sustainable food production systems shall be guaranteed and resilient agricultural practices shall be implemented that can increase productivity and production and ensure an adequate income.	
21	By 2030, the growth of the GDP per capita in Flanders shall at least be maintained and a further decoupling between economic growth on the one hand and the	

	consumption of raw materials and the environmental impact on the other hand shall have been achieved.	
22	By 2030, Flanders shall reach full employment and Flanders shall be among the top in Europe in terms of the employment rate with longer careers and more workable jobs.	
23	By 2030, Flanders shall have transformed itself into a multipurpose economy that creates wealth and employment in a sustainable and competitive manner and encourages companies to adopt sustainable practices.	
24	By 2030, Flanders shall increase the number of knowledge-driven foreign investments in Flanders, which shall also generate employment, and exports, the number of exporting companies and the export share outside Europe shall increase.	
25	By 2030, the entrepreneurial culture in Flanders shall have been widely supported, the number of start-ups shall increase and the number of fast-growing companies shall grow sharply.	
26	By 2030, Flanders shall be a leader in the digital economy and society, supported by a fully rolled-out state-of-the-art digital infrastructure.	
27	By 2030, we shall strengthen our economy by improving the multimodal accessibility of Flanders. The transport network shall be future-proof with optimally connected and smarter infrastructure. A strong network of different modes shall, in combination, provide the mobility system that meets user's transport demand.	
28	By 2030, Flemish industry shall have an important share in the economy and the adaptation of Flemish industry, which focuses on innovative goods and services with a high added value, shall be a fact.	
29	By 2030, the slowdown in productivity growth shall be reversed and we shall score higher than the European average.	
30	In the short term, spending on research and development shall grow to 3% of GDP, with a strong increase in the number of research and development workers, and then we shall improve our relative position with respect to the leaders of Europe.	
31	By 2030, all companies and organisations shall have implemented a strategic competence policy.	
32	By 2030, energy costs for companies shall be at the same competitive level as in our neighbouring countries.	

… within the environmental boundaries of the planet		
33	By 2030, we shall close as many cycles as possible to the benefits of a circular economy and the carbon footprint and material footprint of Flemish consumption shall have decreased in proportion to the quality of life and the food losses in Flanders shall have been reduced by 30%.	
34	By 2030, the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plans and animals bred and domesticated and their wild relatives shall have been maintained, and the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge shall be shared fairly and equitably.	
35	To achieve a significant reduction by 2030 in the number of people affected and to lower significantly the economic impact, including disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, caused by weather conditions and climate-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations, empowering and supporting the sectors concerned and protecting against poverty caused by weather conditions and climate-related disasters.	
36	To achieve by 2030 an environmentally sound management of chemicals and other potentially harmful substances as well as of all wastes throughout their life cycle, and to significantly reduce emissions to air, water and soil in order to minimise their negative impacts on human health and the environment.	
37	By 2030, it shall be guaranteed that people everywhere shall have the opportunity to make sustainable choices, shall have relevant and useful information and be aware of lifestyles that are in harmony with nature, and their environment and circumstances shall make the sustainable choice the most logical and simple one.	
38	By 2030, every water user shall have optimal access to water at a transparent and reasonable price. The quality and affordability of drinking water for citizens remains guaranteed, even for vulnerable groups.	
39	By 2030, water pollution shall be further reduced and hydromorphology shall be restored so that status of good can be achieved in most Flemish watercourses and groundwater levels, as a crucial step towards a robust water system and as a contribution to the protection of the marine environment.	
40	By 2030, water supply shall be secured by protecting surface water and groundwater resources and providing sufficient space and storage for water, while avoiding spillage, maximising the use of alternative water resources and encouraging water reuse.	
41	By 2030, fisheries shall have been effectively regulated and science-based management plans shall have been implemented to restore fish stocks as quickly as possible, at least at levels that can ensure maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.	

42	By 2030, ecosystems and their services and biodiversity shall at least be preserved, the degradation of natural habitats shall be reduced and species at risk of extinction shall be protected.	
43	By 2030, it shall be guaranteed and proven that all public forests and 50% of private forests are managed in accordance with the new integrated nature management criteria and that Flanders increasingly contributes to the promotion of sustainable forest management and the reduction of deforestation on a global scale.	
44	By 2030, no net degraded land may be added in Flanders.	
45	By 2030, new invasive species shall have no chance of establishing themselves and invasive exotic species present shall be fought or controlled to prevent or reduce their impact.	
...with an open and agile government in partnership		
46	In 2030, Flanders shall have effective, responsible, simple, slim and transparent institutions at all levels, with a view to participatory and representative decision-making.	
47	Flanders is making efforts to realise its contribution to the 0.7% norm within the framework of development cooperation.	
48	By 2030, there shall be a shift in public spending towards investment, making Flanders one of Europe's frontrunners in terms of public investment.	

4 SET OF INDICATORS: PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

4.1 CONTEXT

In order to maintain an overview of the progress made in achieving the 2030 objectives, a set of qualitative indicators is needed.

Various international organisations use their own set of indicators to monitor the gaps to target in relation to the SDGs: the UN, the OECD, Eurostat. A comparison of the different sets shows that the Eurostat set is most in line with reality in Flanders and allows Flanders to be situated and benchmarked in a European context.

The aggregation and reduction in the number of original SDG targets resulted in 2030 objectives of a higher, less detailed level. We try to remedy this by means of a limited set of detailed and disaggregated indicators, based on the list of **Flemish Public Statistics** and taking into account the Eurostat set. For the time being, the set consists of ***84* unique indicators, *9* of which are so-called**

dashboard indicators that give a global picture per dimension. The extended set is included in Annex 2. The choice of indicators is based on quality, measurability, relevance and international comparability, with a strong preference for existing indicators. For a number of Flemish 2030 objectives, no indicators are available yet in the Flemish Public Statistics or new indicators need to be developed. This does not have to be a problem: as the list of Flemish Public Statistics is revised annually, statistics can be added (or omitted) at a later date. For any proposal to change the set of indicators feedback is given via the working group between Ministers' offices before making any changes. For a number of relevant indicators that are not yet available at the Flemish level, contact shall be made with the actors involved to see to what extent these indicators can be broken down and used regionally. The reform of the Government of Flanders Research Centre into the Flanders Statistics Authority was also considered. This results in **a realistic and qualitative approach with room for adjustment** on the basis of (new) long-term policy plans and evaluation by the next Government of Flanders.

Flanders Statistics assessed the quality, measurability, relevance and international comparability of the indicators. Moreover, in order to be able to quickly give a global picture, we highlight a few indicators per cluster (for an inclusive society, via a new economy, within the environmental boundaries of the planet, with an open and agile government in partnership). These 9 dashboard indicators (coloured blue below) constitute, as it were, the dashboard of Focus 2030.

4.2 SET OF INDICATORS

... for an inclusive society	
Objective 1	
1.1	Persons in Flanders at risk of poverty or social exclusion (AROPE)
1.2	AROPE breakdown by background characteristics (gender, age, childless or not, etc.) and detailed in terms of poverty risk, very low work intensity and material deprivation
Objective 2	
2.1	Share of the population in (very) good health
2.2	Share of the population that perceives its well-being as (very) good.
2.3	To be complemented by a number of aspects of the OECD's 'Regional Well-Being' indicator, with main focus on general satisfaction and community life. Proposal from Flanders Statistics Authority to base life satisfaction, community life and volunteering on EU-SILC: internationally comparable
Objective 3	
3.1	Sports participation based on survey on Socio-Cultural Shifts (Flemish Public Statistics)
Objective 4	
4.1	% of children with at least 1 consultation in the first 3 months of life
4.2	Number of persons with disabilities with a personal budget on 31/12

4.3	Number of children and adolescents for which a start has been made: - youth assistance that is not directly accessible in a facility - foster care
Objective 5	
5.1	Number of beneficiaries over the 3 care budgets, for people who are highly dependent on care, for elderly people in need of care, for people with disabilities
Objective 6	
6.1	Number of formal childcare places and the number of children who use these formal childcare places. To be further investigated with K&G (Child & Family): breakdown by family composition and socio-economic status; use 20% reserved places in childcare.
Objective 7	
7.1	Participation in pre-primary education: share of enrolled pre-primary children and share sufficiently present, by age group (2.5 to 5), evolution. Breakdown by gender and socio-economic characteristics (so-called pupil characteristics).
Objective 8	
8.1	Nursery and primary education: average performance in mathematics, science and reading, by gender and socio-economic status, international comparison (TIMSS & PIRLS). Data only available every 5 years.
8.2	Secondary education; average performance in reading ability, mathematical and scientific literacy, by gender and socio-economic status, international comparison (PISA).
8.3	Participation in higher education by level of education of mother and by gender (PACT 2020)
Objective 9	
9.1	Share of schools with favourable advice from inspectorate in terms of habitability, safety and hygiene, by level of education
9.2	Share of qualified teachers, by level of education
9.3	Share of teachers engaged in professional development, by level of education (TALIS)
Objective 10	
10.1	Nursery and primary education: basic level in mathematics, science and reading, by gender and socio-economic status, international comparison (TIMSS & PIRLS).
10.2	Secondary education; basic level in reading ability, mathematical and scientific literacy, by gender and socio-economic status, international comparison (PISA).
10.3	Breakdown of secondary education pupils and higher education students by OECD breakdown into large groups (e.g. STEM and care): still to be assessed
Objective 11	

11.1	Share that participates in lifelong learning by gender, age, level of education (EU/ET 2020 indicator; on the basis of LFS; also opportunities on the basis of AES)
11.2	PIAAC (Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies) - research into the linguistic and numerical skills of adults.
11.3	Digital competence of citizens based on some aspects of the DESI index (Internet use, basic digital skills)
Objective 12	
12.1	Proportion of pupils achieving basic level of reading ability, mathematical and scientific literacy (based on PISA, (non-) achievement of level 2)
12.2	Share of 18-24 year olds who have no SE level qualification and are no longer in education or training (EU2020 indicator 'early leavers from education and training' based on LFS)
12.3	'Number/share of NEET youth [aged 18 - 24]
Objective 13	
13.1	Share of adults who participated in education or training in the last four weeks, by gender, age, level of education, international comparison (based on LFS, EU/ET2020 indicator); on the basis of LFS/AES with 12-month reference period
13.2	Participation in adult education: profiles of participants by gender, highest attained diploma and employment situation
Objective 14	
14.1	Employment rates, career expectations (potential employment rate) (see indicator 22), further subdivided into the disadvantaged groups; persons with work-limiting disabilities, low-skilled people, people of foreign origin, young people, gender.
14.2	Proportional participation of disadvantaged groups in different areas of society: culture, sports, membership of associations, Internet use and political participation
Objective 15	
15.1	Healthy life expectancy by socio-economic status (Sciensano)
15.2	Persons who postpone medical care (dentist/GP) for financial reasons
Objective 16	
16.1	Indicators from SID survey outside Flemish Public Statistics: (1) Share (%) of respondents indicating Dutch as the best known language + (2) Share (%) of respondents (of which Dutch is not the best known language) who either do or do not understand, read, speak or write Dutch.
Objective 17	
17.1	Indicators around: RAC: recognition of acquired competencies PAQ: previously acquired qualifications

Objective 18	
18.1	Share of dwellings of 'sufficient quality', separately for private rentals, social rentals and owners.
...via a new economy	
Objective 19	
19.1	General terms of credit for companies (Belgian data from Bank Lending Survey)
Objective 20	
20.1	Agricultural production
20.2	Sufficient labour income in agriculture
20.3	Agricultural productivity
20.4	Eco-efficiency in the agricultural sector
Objective 21	
21.1	Real GDP/per capita growth
21.2	Eco-efficiency: GDP compared to energy consumption, water consumption, production of household and industrial waste, emission to air of greenhouse gases, acidifying substances and fine particulate matter, emission to water of nitrogen
Objective 22	
22.1	Employment rates, unemployment rates, average effective exit age. (Workability of international comparison difficult: no LFS data, European Working Conditions survey not representative at the Flemish level)
22.2	Degrees of workability of Social and Economic Council of Flanders (as long as no internationally comparable data are available)
Objective 23	
23.1	Harmonised competitiveness indicator
23.2	Wage cost handicap compared to our 3 main neighbouring countries/trade partners (Germany, France, the Netherlands) Cost of labour per unit of output
Objective 24	
24.1	Export ratio, Broken down between EU and non-EU.
24.2	R&D expenditures of foreign entities in Flanders. (Subject to approval)
Objective 25	
25.1	Establishment of companies

25.2	Fast-growing companies
25.3	Entrepreneurial culture
Objective 26	
26.1	Share of companies analysing big data from any source.
26.2	Fixed Internet download connection speed in companies
26.3	To be completed with some relevant aspects of the DESI index on companies
Objective 27	
27.1	See future set of indicators to be developed for Mobility and Public Works
27.2	See future set of indicators to be developed for Mobility and Public Works
Objective 28	
28.1	Industry (share in VAT and employment)
28.2	Share of innovative enterprises (CIS survey). Availability of data by sector to be checked
Objective 29	
29.1	Volume of labour productivity, in industry and total economy. To be checked whether possible by sector.
29.2	Productivity growth, by sector
Objective 30	
30.1	3% standard (GERD)
30.2	R&D staff
30.3	Public funding for science and innovation (Economy, Science and Innovation)
Objective 31	
31.1	Average number of training days per FTE employee: regional availability shall be checked
31.2	High Performance Work Practice indicator
Objective 32	
32.1	Energy standard

… within the environmental boundaries of the planet	
Objective 33	
33.1	Material productivity of the Flemish economy
33.2	Carbon footprint and materials footprint of Flemish consumption
33.3	Data on food losses
Objective 34	
34.1	Genetic diversity
Objective 35	
35.1	Flood prone areas and vulnerable institutions and those affected by heat
Objective 36	
36.1	Destination (reuse, recycling, incineration, landfill, etc.) of household and industrial waste
Objective 37	
37.1	No indicator yet. To be considered on the basis of the survey by the Flemish Energy Agency
Objective 38	
38.1	Affordability of drinking water: number of repayment plans and disconnections of drinking water
38.2	Quality of drinking water
Objective 39	
39.1	Ecological status of Flemish surface water systems
39.2	Share of groundwater systems in good condition (qualitative & quantitative)
Objective 40	
40.1	Groundwater level
Objective 41	
41.1	No need for a specific Flemish indicator: is already the case on the basis of European legislation
Objective 42	
42.1	Biodiversity index
42.2	Surface area under effective nature management
Objective 43	
43.1	Area of forest with integrated management plan

Objective 44	
44.1	Soil sealing (surface of artificial ground cover in relation to total surface area)
44.2	Contaminated land per remediation phase
44.3	Soil erosion
Objective 45	
45.1	Share of exotic plant and animal species
…with an open and agile government in partnership	
Objective 46	
46.1	Image aspects: transparency, efficiency, collaboration, innovation, continuous improvement, customer focus, accessibility and reliability.
46.1	Evolution of satisfaction with the provision of information and communication by the government
46.1	Life satisfaction, community life and volunteering to be based on EU-SILC: internationally comparable
Objective 47	
47.1	Amount in euro of Flanders' ODA contribution, adjusted for the value of the euro in 2018.
Objective 48	
48.1	New figures from Flanders Statistics Authority on investments (including local authorities)

5 IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The SDG framework is founded on an integrated and holistic approach. By using the SDGs as the basis for the 2030 objectives framework, we are taking steps to counteract the compartmentalisation in policy and to work from a more holistic vision. This holistic and transversal approach will also be continued in the implementation. The run-up to the new term of office is an excellent time to provide a number of elements for this purpose. After all, the actual implementation of Focus 2030 will be worked out in the policy documents at the start of the next term of office.

In its implementation, Flanders has opted for an ambitious but realistic approach to the 2030 objectives, by building on existing, forward-looking policies, supplemented by a number of new action points and taking into account the long-term framework of Vision 2050. The **implementation of the 2030 objectives** is the responsibility of the different entities, always striving for participation and cooperation within and outside the Flemish administration. After all, the scope and complexity of the SDGs require the **active participation** of stakeholders, in which participation between public and private players is crucial. Flanders has already built up experience in this area within the seven transition priorities of Vision 2050.

But achieving the 2030 objectives is also an international and local challenge and requires **each level of government** to **take appropriate action**. In the coming period, the Government of Flanders will therefore also focus on the further development of partnerships to implement the SDGs in the field. Cities, municipalities and provinces in particular have an important role to play in the realisation of the SDGs. This is why collaboration between the Flemish administration and the Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities (VVSG), the Association of Flemish Provinces (VVP) and the Flemish Cities Knowledge Centre is recommended, and the possibility of an SDG Pact with the local authorities is being examined. In addition, the evolution of how the sustainable development goals will be implemented in the EU is closely monitored. The choices that will be made at European level in the coming period will obviously have an impact on Focus 2030.

The implementation of Focus 2030 will be monitored via two tracks. On the one hand, the traditional monitoring through the set of indicators provides a transparent overview with an overall state of play of the 2030 objectives framework and an indicative status of individual objectives. On the other hand, at the start of the new term of office, when the policy information is being drawn up within the framework of the policy and budgetary remarks, a link with Focus 2030 will be made for each policy field. Based on this, an annual report (September) can also be delivered, for the benefit of the September Declaration.

In those areas where there is still room for improvement, the Department of Public Governance and the Chancellery, in its role as Centre of Government, can offer further support/advice to the entities involved. Naturally, **awareness-raising and training** are also essential in order to familiarise employees in government entities with the SDG framework. For this reason, frequently updated SDG training will be offered in the future as well, both on a generic basis (for all civil servants) and specifically for management boards and management committees.