Economic distress in South Asia derails SDG progress

According to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)’s latest State of Asia and the Pacific Report 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact left the countries in South Asia battling unprecedented social and economic crises, which have slowed down and stall progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Multiple waves of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact left the countries in South Asia battling unprecedented social and economic crises, which have slowed down and stall progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The resulting economic crises stalled economic growth and left the region with a deepening economic and social crisis.

Moreover, the regional economic and social crisis has exacerbated the already existing economic vulnerabilities of most of the countries in the region. The resulting economic crisis has impacted the region’s economic growth and left the region with a deepening economic and social crisis.

Hence, it comes as little surprise that the South Asia region has failed to register the progress required to be on track to achieve the SDG targets by 2030. According to the UNESCAP Report, the region scored an average of 62 on the 2030 Agenda Index, which measures overall progress towards the SDGs.

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