South Korea

Asia and the Pacific

If historic trends continue, the world won’t achieve gender equality until 2108.

How is South Korea performing on gender equality in the SDGs?

The SDG Gender Index covers 144 countries, 98% of the world’s girls and women, and 14 of 17 Sustainable Development Goals. It includes 56 indicators capturing gender-related measures across the 2030 Agenda.

2015 Index score 2020 Index score Global Rank Regional Rank

74 77 36 5

Fair Fair Some progress out of 144 countries out of 26 countries

If current trends continue, a girl born this year will be in her twenties before there are reasonable laws in South Korea to protect gender equality at work.

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Score by goal for 2015 and 2020

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Best and worst performing indicators since 2015

Best

- Proportion of ministerial/senior government positions held by women
- Proportion of women (15+ years) who report that they feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where they live
- Extent to which the delegation representing the country at the COP meeting is gender balanced

Worst

- Military expenditure as a percentage of GDP
- Co2 total emissions from fuel combustion in million tonnes
- Extent to which women can openly discuss political issues in private and in public spaces

Scoring system

Fast progress: Increase by >3 points
Some progress: Increased by <3 points and >1 point
No progress: Less than +1 or -1 change in points
Decline or Wrong direction: Decline by more than -1 point