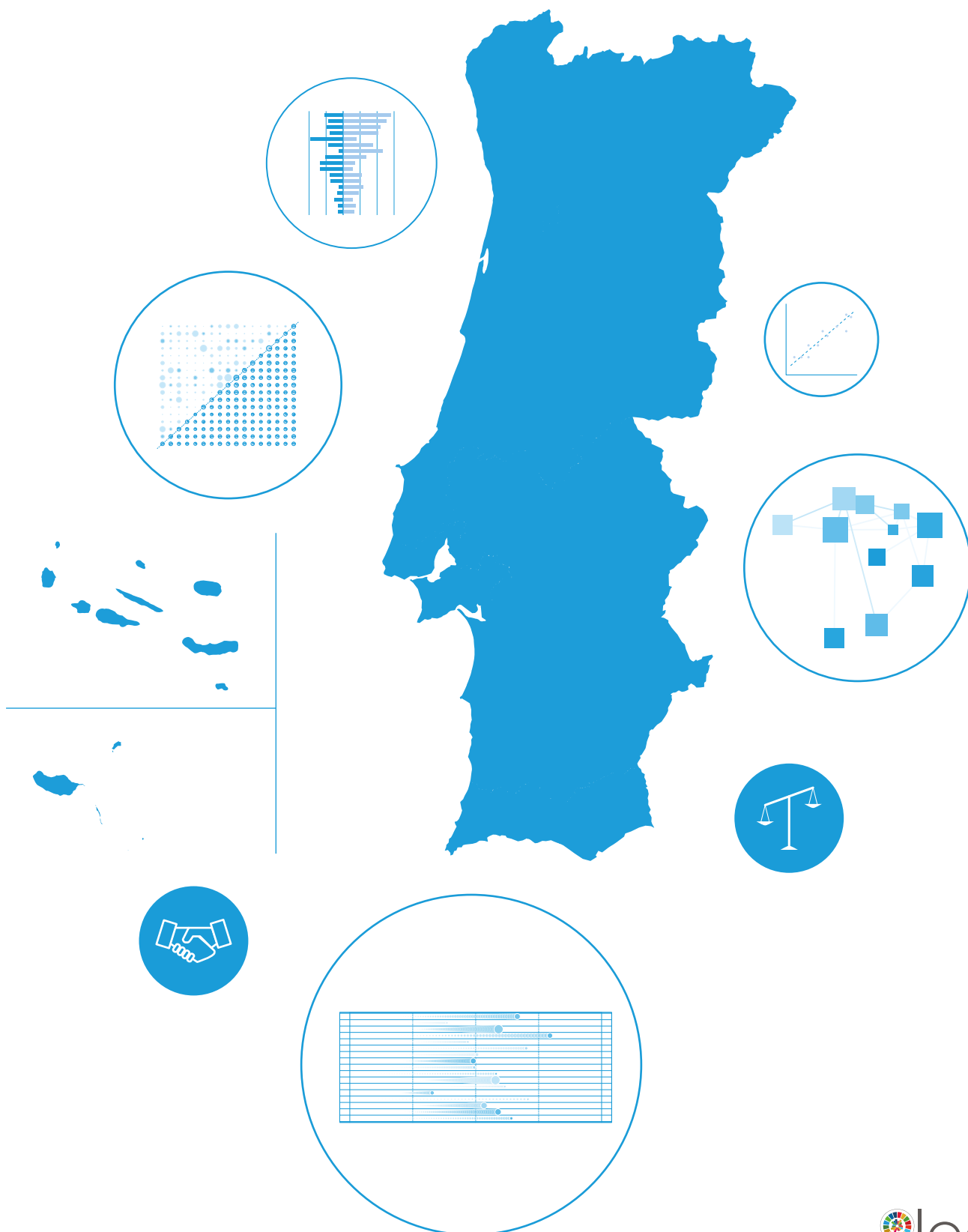


EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

STATE OF THE SDGs IN PORTUGAL



What do the municipal indicators
from localSDG Platform tell us?



Executive Summary

This report presents and analyses, for the 308 Portuguese municipalities, the latest data on 143 progress indicators for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in relation to the targets set for each of them for the year 2030.

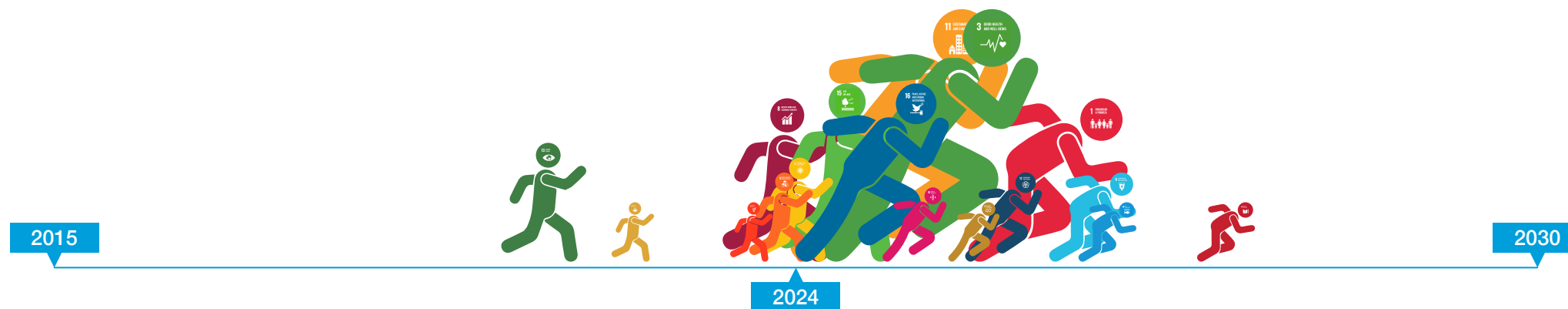
PROGRESS ON THE SDGS

Currently, the SDGs in which Portuguese municipalities have the best average performance are **SDG 4** - Quality education, **SDG 6** - Clean water and sanitation and **SDG 14** - Life below water.

All SDGs are halfway or more than halfway to 2030, with the exception of three: **SDG 13** - Climate action, **SDG 2** - Zero hunger and promote sustainable agriculture and **SDG 5** - Gender equality. These SDGs therefore warrant particular attention.

If the trend seen since 2015 continues, the projections for 2030 indicate a generalised improvement in the SDGs, although none of them are expected to achieve 100% of their targets. The exceptions to this overall positive trend are **SDG 11** - Sustainable cities and communities and **SDG 12** - Responsible consumption and production, which may see a step backwards in terms of getting closer to the targets set for 2030. For this reason, these two SDGs also deserve extra attention.

There are therefore five SDGs that warrant greater commitment in the short term: three because they have made insufficient progress and therefore need to be accelerated, and two because they are at risk of regressing and therefore this trend needs to be reversed.

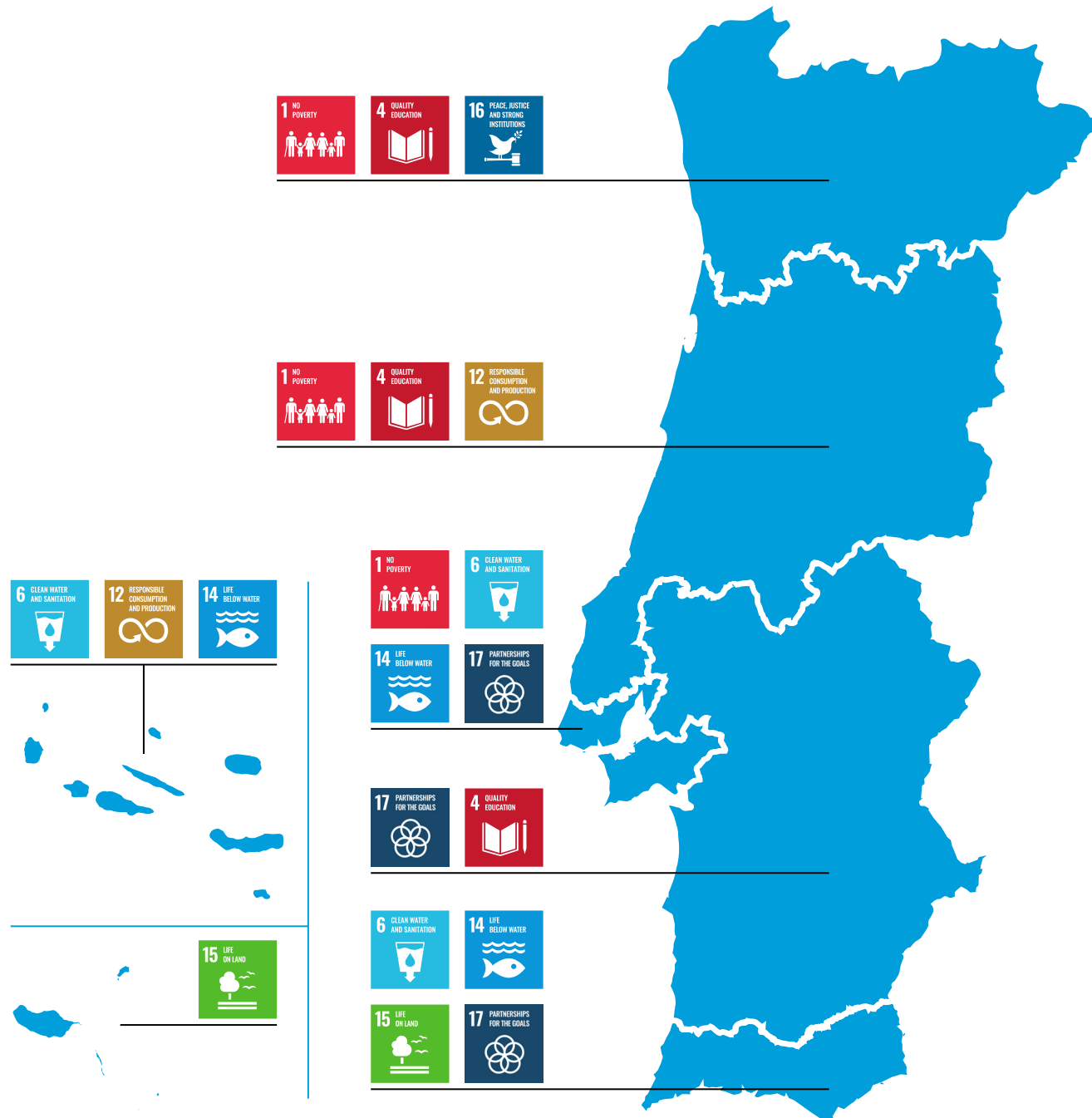


TERRITORIAL DISPARITIES

Portugal's seven regions (NUTS II) show intra-regional (between the municipalities in each region) and inter-regional disparities in terms of progress on the various SDGs.

The regions in Portugal where municipalities have the best overall performance are the Centre, the North and the Lisbon Metropolitan Area. The regions whose municipalities have a less positive overall average performance are the Autonomous Region of Madeira, the Algarve and the Alentejo.

However, all the regions stand out positively in certain SDGs, due to their top performance and in comparison, with the other regions. These SDGs can serve as a lever to accelerate the fulfilment of other SDGs, based on the establishment of synergistic interactions between them.

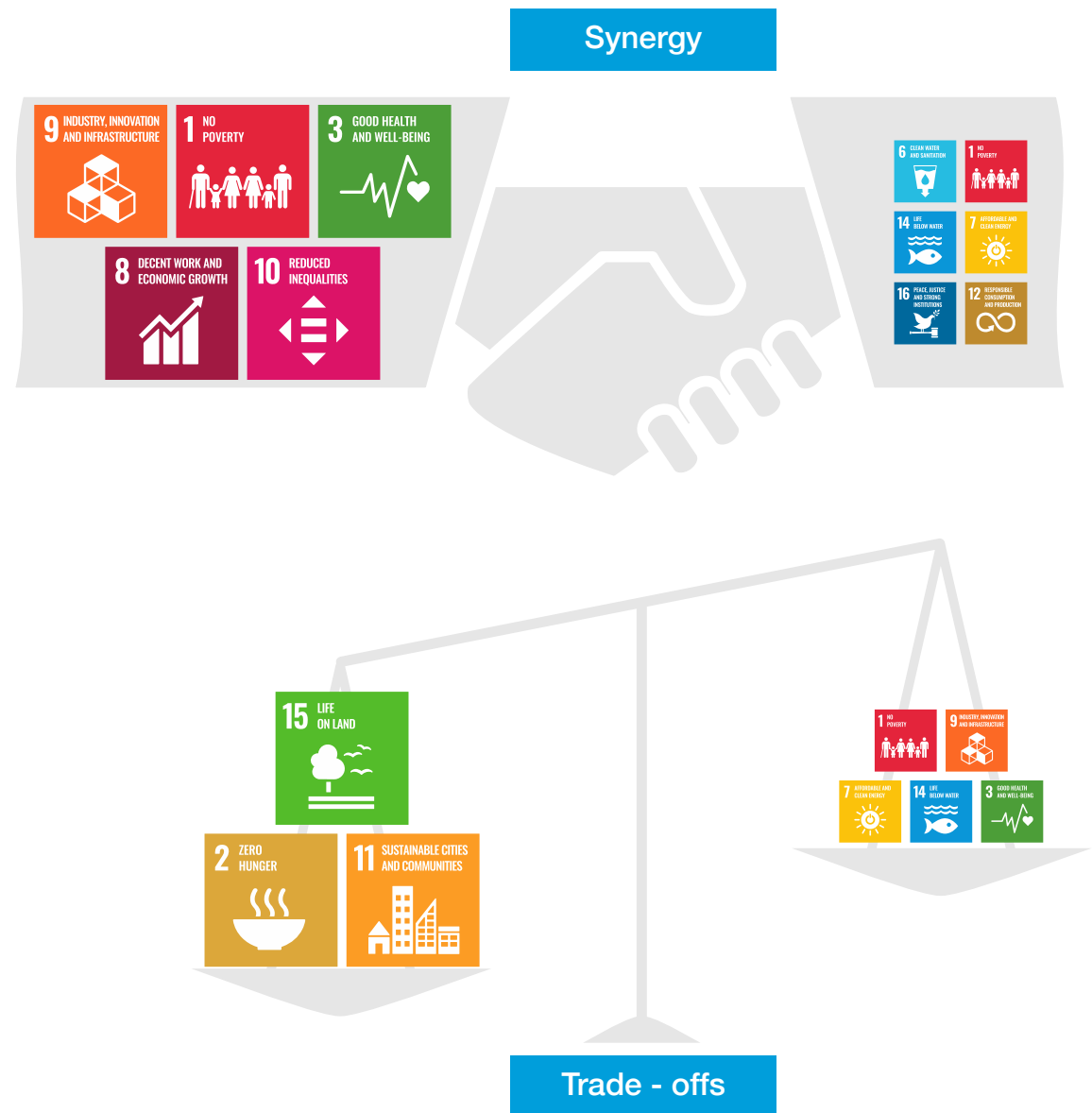


SDGS INTERLINKAGES

The usual aggregation of the various SDGs into five major thematic areas (the 5 P's - Planet, People, Prosperity, Partnerships and Peace) is not confirmed by the network of connections between the various progress indicators analysed. The result highlights the complexity of the interactions between the different SDGs and suggests that the best approach to adopt an effective and comprehensive implementation of the 2030 Agenda should be transdisciplinary and holistic, rather than sectoral or rigidly organised by predefined domains, as is the case with the five P's.

The SDGs with the greatest number of positive relationships with other SDGs, which points to a greater potential for synergy, include both the Prosperity dimension (**SDG 9** - Industry, innovation and infrastructure, **SDG 8** - Decent work and economic growth and **SDG 10** - Reduce inequalities) and the People dimension (**SDG 1** - No poverty and **SDG 3** - Good health and well-being for people). A joint commitment to these SDGs by municipalities can therefore trigger particularly positive cross-effects.

The SDGs with the highest number of negative relationships with other SDGs (which indicates a greater need to manage potential trade-offs) are spread across three dimensions: Prosperity (**SDG 11** - Sustainable cities and communities), Planet (**SDG 15** - Life on land) and People (**SDG 2** - Zero hunger and promote sustainable agriculture). This result alerts us to the urgency of ensuring a better compromise between human activities and the environment.



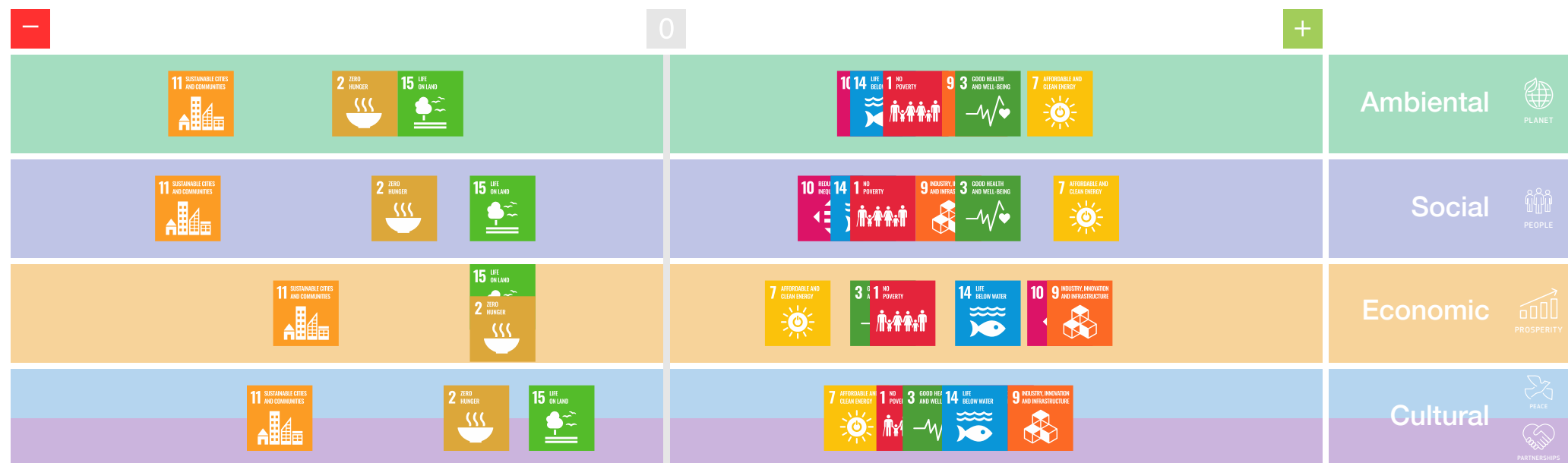
SITUATING THE SDGS

The uneven progress made by municipalities in relation to the SDGs depends very much on their starting situation. As one might expect, the environmental, social, economic and cultural context of the municipalities matters, and is relevant to their (un)successful progress on 2/3 of the SDGs.

Municipalities that are environmentally more careful with the integration of biodiversity conservation into land use planning, socially more connected based on a higher population density, economically more prosperous according to their GDP per inhabitant, and promoters of a culture of peace and partnership associated with a population with more favourable levels of education, perform better in more than half of the seventeen SDGs, with particular emphasis on **SDG 9** - Industry,

innovation and infrastructure, **SDG 7** - Affordable and clean energy, **SDG 3** - Good health and well-being for people and **SDG 1** - No poverty.

However, there is not always a positive relationship between the set of municipal attributes mentioned previously and a good performance on the SDGs. In fact, there is a negative correlation between the municipal characteristics identified above and three SDGs: **SDG 11** - Sustainable cities and communities, **SDG 15** - Life on land and **SDG 2** - Zero hunger and promote sustainable agriculture. This negative relationship points to the need to develop in-depth studies to identify the factors that cause it and efficient ways to overcome this situation.



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Parceiros



Mecenas

