

CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Energizing the Sustainable Development Goals

With its pioneering technologies, ABB is helping to meet many of the underlying targets of the SDGs

In January 2016, 193 UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda, taking on 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for people, the planet and prosperity. The SDGs and their related targets address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time and stimulate transformational changes. We recognize that achieving these goals requires businesses to contribute their fair share.

Our structured analysis identified seven SDGs where we can have the most impact. Our products, services and solutions not only enable SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), which is one of our core businesses, but also SDGs 6, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 17.

Over the coming years, we will seek to maximize our contribution to the specific targets associated with these seven SDGs, where we can have the highest impact. For the remaining 10 SDGs, we will continue to contribute directly and indirectly, through our technology and by operating our business responsibly.

ABB makes a significant contribution to all 17 SDGs. Examples can be found by clicking on the SDG icons or at the back of the report.



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ABB enables seven of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

The following case studies illustrate just some of the many ways ABB is enabling the global community to meet many of the underlying SDG targets



Affordable and clean energy

ABB's microgrids, powered by renewable energy, bring electricity to remote places and excel at providing clean backup power to regions prone to outages. Microgrids can integrate multiple distributed generation sources, and their benefits are realized almost immediately. One recent installation brought vital power to weavers and tailors in Barmer, India.



Clean water and sanitation

Advanced technologies from ABB are making access to safe water and sanitation possible in countries across the world. The ABB Ability Distributed Control System will serve as the cornerstone of the water distribution network in New Cairo, Egypt, delivering 500,000 cubic meters of water per day to 2.5 million people.



Decent work and economic growth

Industrial automation is an effective way to generate growth and strengthen job markets. Robots such as ABB's YuMi are increasing productivity while creating entirely new types of jobs for people. Deonet, a Dutch manufacturer of promotional products, has deployed advanced automation to compete successfully with low-cost overseas manufacturers.



Industry, innovation and infrastructure

We operate seven corporate research centers, employ 8,500 researchers, and collaborate with more than 70 universities around the world. In 2017 we invested \$1.4bn in R&D and have set ourselves a target to increase the share of revenue from our eco-efficiency portfolio to 60% of our total revenue by 2020.



Sustainable cities and communities

We provide a foundation for smarter cities by supporting critical infrastructure and enabling the automation of factories, stores, offices and homes. In a recent project for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority, ABB developed a hybrid energy storage system that captures excess energy produced by braking trains, reducing energy consumption by 10 percent.



Responsible consumption and production

Our products, manufacturing processes and supply chain must comply with the "ABB List of Prohibited and Restricted Substances." We monitor the sourcing of certain minerals closely and are phasing out the use of hazardous substances. ABB works closely with its suppliers to support these efforts.



Partnerships for the goals

United for Efficiency (U4E) is a public-private multi-stakeholder collaboration partnership led by the United Nations Environment Programme. It helps governments develop and implement national and regional strategies for improved energy efficiency. ABB is a founding partner, sharing our know-how on motors and transformers, policies, regulations and standards, and potential applications for the best available technologies.

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ABB contributes to ten of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals

The following case studies illustrate just some of the many ways ABB is contributing to global efforts to meet many of the underlying SDG targets



No poverty

Lack of basic infrastructure keeps nearly two billion people trapped in poverty around the world. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, ABB is addressing the issue of access to electricity with an innovative solution to tap into high-voltage transmission lines to provide power to small communities nearby.



Zero hunger

ABB is a leader in technologies that enable farms and food producers to improve performance and reduce environmental impacts. In Egypt, low-voltage motors from ABB are used to power the pumps at two fish-farming pilot projects in the Nile Delta, part of an ambitious initiative to expand the country's fishery resources.



Good health and well-being

Safety and health are a top priority for ABB; our goal is to achieve zero incidents. Our automation solutions help other enterprises pursue the same goal. Automated processes in mining have saved countless lives, and robots from ABB are taking on the dull, dirty and dangerous tasks that no human should have to do.



Quality education

We support a wide range of educational activities and organizations, including several hundred community engagement programs around the world. The global foundation created to honor former ABB Chairman Jürgen Dormann helps promising engineering students fund their further education. ABB also invests roughly \$11 million annually in employee learning initiatives.



Gender equality

Our new diversity and inclusiveness framework is designed to expand opportunities for women, especially those already working at ABB. Its first phase focuses on integrating diversity objectives into our talent development processes and raising awareness among employees. We support the Women's Forum to share and learn from best practices at other companies.



Reduced inequality

ABB actively seeks to address the issue of inequality by recruiting skilled employees from diverse backgrounds and by utilizing local supply chains that generate local jobs. Our extensive business and social commitments are outlined in our Group Code of Conduct, our Ethics, Environment, Social and Human Rights policies, and other internal guidelines.



Climate action

Taking action to address the causes of climate change is of vital importance to both the environment and the global economy. ABB was one of 79 signatories to an open letter in 2015 urging the world's leaders to reach an ambitious climate deal at COP 21. We have actively participated in all recent COP meetings to encourage countries to deliver on their policies and action plans.



Life below water

Our integrated marine systems improve operational efficiency and reduce fuel consumption, lessening the environmental impacts of ocean shipping. These include our Azipod® propulsion systems and our marine software and services. We support the research of By the Ocean we Unite, which addresses the major challenge of plastic pollution in the oceans.



Life on land

We have implemented policies and programs to reduce resource consumption, maximize recycling and eliminate use of hazardous materials. Our eco-efficient products are subjected to life-cycle assessments that encompass long-term environmental consequences. Among our many environmental commitments, we have participated actively in reforestation programs in Costa Rica and Inner Mongolia, China.



Peace, justice and strong institutions

For over 10 years, ABB has been a member of the corporate support group of the International Committee of the Red Cross, helping to address humanitarian challenges in areas of conflict. In 2017, ABB engineers installed a microgrid solution to deliver reliable power at the International Committee of the Red Cross Logistics Center in Nairobi, Kenya.