



SDG 8

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

Targets

8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries.

8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.

8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead.

8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.

8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries.

8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization

Opportunities for business transformation with SDG 8

Each and every SDG provides business opportunities. Businesses have a chance to contribute to society and their own bottom line by pursuing the SDGs. The following are the strategies businesses can use to play their role for SDG 8:

- **Create decent work opportunities** by offering fair wages, safe working conditions, and opportunities for training and advancement.
- **Promote diversity and inclusion in the hiring process** by encouraging equitable opportunities, eradicating biases, and creating a welcoming atmosphere.
- **Investing in employee training and development programs** can help businesses improve employee engagement and retention, as well as contribute to the growth of the economy.
- **Investing in renewable energy early** can help businesses reduce their carbon footprint and create job opportunities in the green economy.
- **Practice sustainable supply chain practices** by using ethically sourced resources and cutting waste, which can save prices and boost efficiency.



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Case Study



Central America



CONA Solar

Background



The furniture business in Central America is flourishing due to talented craftsmen. However, the region's humid weather conditions make producing goods of superior quality difficult due to the wood used being too young and moist. Besides, they need more funds to establish a professional timber yard or buy wood-drying equipment to compete with larger furniture producers.

Challenges



Source: CONA Solar

The carpenters need to have appropriate wood-drying equipment. Most wood used for furniture was air-dried, exposing it to local humidity, making it difficult to deal with and resulting in lower-quality goods. Additionally, the cost of importing and maintaining woodwork dryers available in Europe needed to be lowered for most of the tradespeople in the area to afford them.

Solutions



Source: CONA Solar

BBC's partner, CONA Solar, designed and installed a solar wood-drying system to help carpenters in Central America. It is user-friendly, inexpensive, and even able to run without electricity, reducing operational expenses and the possibility of warping and splitting. This method allows carpenters to make products of top quality for meagre operational costs, increasing their marketability.

Impact



Source: CONA Solar

CONA's solar wood-drying technology has helped Central American carpenters to produce high-quality furniture and reduce running costs. It has also created new opportunities for carpenters, allowing them to expand their customer base and export their products, increasing economic growth and job opportunities and positively impacting the environment and the local economy.