

SDG Health & Wellbeing

The SDG Health & Wellbeing Research Consortium

What is SDG-HaW?

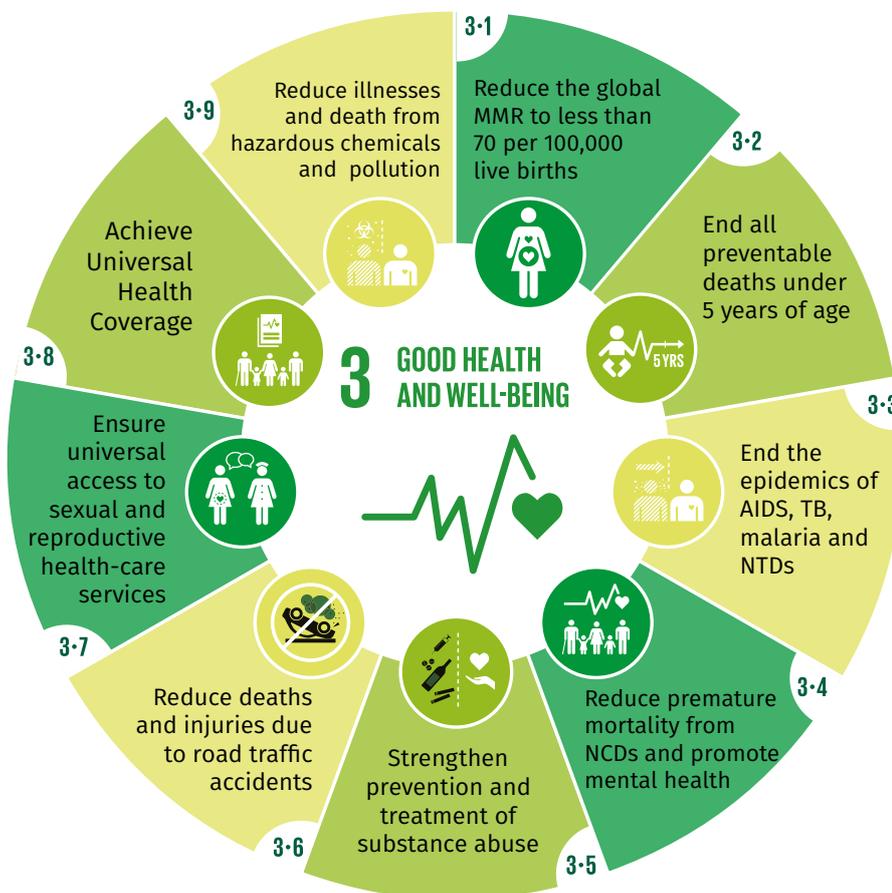
This consortium – Sustainable Development Goal: Health & Wellbeing – conducts formative research into the health and wellbeing needs and priorities of the host communities of about 30 Anglo-American mines in 8 countries. Most of these mines are located in South Africa.

Funded by the Anglo-American Foundation as part of their Sustainability Strategy, the study takes the first step towards identifying a set of interventions to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3, “to ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages, by 2030”.

In each of the eight countries involved – South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Peru, Chile, Brazil, Australia and Canada – the one-year baseline study is led by local research organisations. The researchers aim to describe existing programmes and services and identify gaps. From this basis, the consortium can develop intervention packages tailored to the specific needs of each of the host communities.

By establishing local needs and priorities in each community and recommending intervention packages, SDG-HaW will lay the groundwork for Anglo-American’s efforts to achieve SDG targets 3.1 to 3.9 by 2030.

Figure 1: SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages



Background

Adopted by United Nations member states in 2015, the SDGs are described as “a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet”. To achieve the 17 interconnected goals, various sectors must work together (health with education, housing, transport and so on), and share investment in ‘best buys’, interventions that deliver multiple benefits across many different goals.

Taking this approach, the Anglo American Group published a sustainability strategy in 2018. The strategy is built around three global sustainability pillars: Trusted Corporate Leader; Healthy Environment; **Thriving Communities**. To build thriving communities, the sustainability strategy identifies three targets they call “stretch goals”: **Health and wellbeing**; Education; Livelihoods.

The SDG-HaW consortium and study focus on the Health and Wellbeing stretch goal within the Thriving Communities pillar. However, health issues and targets overlap with other sectors, particularly education (SDG4), livelihoods (SDG1) and gender equality (SDG5).

Source: United Nations <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals>

Who is involved in SDG-HaW?

Research partners

The consortium brings together a multidisciplinary team of social scientists and epidemiologists, with experience working across the range of countries bringing academics and community development groups together.

- Soul City Institute for Social Justice, **South Africa**
- Research and Training for Health and Development (RTHD), **South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana**
- John Snow Brasil, **Brazil**
- Innovation for Development, **Chile and Peru**
- James Cook University, Queensland, **Australia**
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, **UK and Canada**

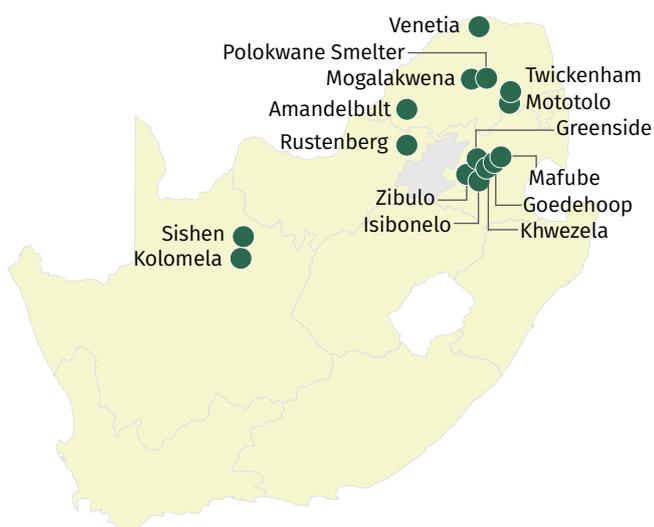
Host communities in South Africa

The work of the consortium is directed to ensuring the health and wellbeing of the people in the host community of each of the mines. The 15 mines in South Africa are located in:

- Limpopo (6 platinum)
- North West (1 platinum)
- Northern Cape (2 iron ore)
- Mpumalanga (6 coal)

Underpinning SDG – HaW research is the SDG commitment to leave no one behind and reach the furthest behind first. Researchers will pay particular attention to key populations in the targeted host communities – especially young women and persons with disabilities, the elderly, LGBTIQ groups and female sex workers.

Figure 2: Mine locations in South Africa



What is involved in SDG-HaW's research?

The consortium is tasked with delivering the first milestone within Anglo-American's overall sustainability strategy:

2020: Establish baseline and strategies at every site to achieve targets

2025: Half way to closing gap between baseline and targets

2030: Meet locally relevant health targets in the host communities

To achieve this first target, SDG-HaW:

- 1 conducts a baseline assessment of existing data to estimate progress towards the SDG health and wellbeing targets in the host countries
- 2 conducts a baseline assessment in the host communities including stakeholder mapping, service mapping, needs assessment and prioritisation, in relation to the SDG health and wellbeing targets
- 3 designs tailored interventions based on best practice evidence, to address the priority targets
- 4 develops monitoring and evaluation frameworks to track progress to the SDG targets during the interventions
- 5 develops a costed proposal to implement the proposed interventions and monitoring and evaluation programmes
- 6 supports research capacity development and preparation of data analysis plans

At the end of the year's study and based on analysis of the data, the SDG-HaW team will recommend a series of intervention packages for each site, together with plans, budgets and lists of local providers to put them into practice and to monitor their progress, in order to meet the identified health and wellbeing needs of host communities by 2030.