

# ygap and the SDGs

## What are the SDGs?

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.<sup>1</sup>



## Why align with the SDGs?

1. Allows us to align with accepted language in the sector and participate in global conversations around poverty alleviation
2. Provides an internationally recognized and accepted framework for tracking our progress against the published 169 targets and 232 indicators
3. Attracts partners, impact investors, and other stakeholders to ygap's work and add recognition to our work as a major player in the broader development ecosystem
4. Empowers the impact ventures ygap supports to access opportunities, funding, and UN resources that have been specifically created to support initiatives working to address the SDGs

## ygap's use of the SDGs



At ygap, we believe in the power of social entrepreneurship to alleviate poverty in all its forms. By supporting early-stage impact ventures, we are directly contributing to Goal 1: No Poverty and Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. We are specifically working towards target 1.2 and target 8.3.

In regards to the impact ventures we support, each venture will have its own local strategy for addressing poverty in their communities. Accordingly, the collective impact of the portfolio of impact ventures we support will be vast. However, each venture must directly contribute to at least one SDG and through participation in the ygap program, their impact is tracked against a specific SDG target.

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## Case studies - How we communicate our impact against the SDGs

### NAME OF ENTREPRENEUR

Donna Wate

### LOCATION OF VENTURE

Honiara, Solomon Islands

### YGAP COHORT

September 2018

### SDG



### PROBLEM

In the Solomons Islands, 23% of the population lives below the poverty line. With 620,000 people living across more than 900 islands, there are just two fully trained doctors for every 10,000 people. 80% of these doctors are based out of the National Referral Hospital in the nation's capital, Honiara - which contributes to a huge disparity in accessing healthcare for poor rural communities.

Correspondingly, the maternal mortality rate in the Solomon Islands is 114 deaths per 100,000 births, compared to 12 deaths per 100,000 births in developed countries. Most of these deaths are concentrated among the rural poor, where the absence of quality medical care is staggering.

### SOLUTION

Mere Care is a private women's health clinic that provides quality care at half of the price that other private clinics offer. Mere Care focuses on providing low-income women in the outskirts of Honiara with affordable, quality healthcare by traveling to the settlements in a mobile clinic, eliminating the burden of travel for the women they treat. The mobile clinic addresses unequal access to healthcare, aligning with SDG 10, and specializes in maternal health, aligning with SDG 3.

### THEORY OF CHANGE

Mere Care believes in a Solomon Islands where all women can afford to access quality health care. While public health clinics provide free healthcare, it is of low quality and the few clinics are overcrowded. This poses a significant problem for many patients, particularly women with young children, pregnant women, or women who have been domestically abused.

To address this problem, Mere Care travels to their patients, providing medical treatment and pharmaceutical services in their mobile clinic. The mobility of their services drastically increases the number of patients they are able to treat as they are able to cover a wide territory.