

Mapping Sustainable Development Goals at the Regional Scale: A Student Perspective

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Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), cartographic education, thematic mapping, regional scale

Abstract:

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This poster presents a set of thematic maps focused on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), created by university students of cartography. The aim is to explore how students perceive and interpret SDG-related topics through regional scale spatial analysis and map design.

Each student selected an individual topic linked to one or more SDGs. The workflow included data acquisition from available open sources, data validation and possible completion, selection of appropriate spatial analysis methods, and the design of cartographic visualizations. The resulting maps cover regional and local scales, ranging from the South Moravian Region to specific districts of the city of Brno. The presented outputs demonstrate the potential of cartographic visualization to support awareness of SDG implementation at the regional level. Maps allow the identification of spatial patterns and problem areas, which can serve as a first step towards more informed decision making. Selected examples include the accessibility of parcel lockers, the relationship between perceived safety and actual crime rates, and the spatial distribution of public green spaces.

In addition to presenting selected student works, the poster also analyses the distribution of chosen topics across individual SDGs. This overview provides insight into which sustainability issues are perceived as most relevant by cartography students. The results suggest a strong focus on urban environment, public space, and quality of life, particularly within SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

The study highlights the role of cartographic education in connecting global sustainability frameworks with local spatial data and analysis. It also demonstrates how student projects can contribute to the understanding of SDGs at finer spatial scales, where many sustainability challenges are most visible and actionable.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Professor Robert Roth for the inspiration provided through the “Make an Atlas in a Week” workshop held in Vienna, focused on the development of the Atlas of Sustainability (2025) supported by the International Cartographic Association.