

## Bouncing back better: Resilience and transformation

The relevance of the concept of resilience is illustrated in theoretical terms in Figure 1.2, which compares the development pathways of country A and country B. Initially, country A was on course to attain its SDG targets by 2030, while country B was following a pathway on which the SDGs were unachievable by 2030.

Both countries experienced shocks in year ' $t_1$ ' and their differing resilience capacities meant they responded differently to this shock. Country A bounced back to its original development trajectory, meaning the SDGs were still attainable by 2030. Country B, on the other hand, utilized its transformative capacity to undertake systemic changes, moving to a new development trajectory that meant the SDGs were now attainable by 2030.

Hence, systemic transformations in response to shocks can bring countries closer to realizing their SDG targets. Such transformations include a fundamental shift to renewable energy sources; societal reorganization that leads to greater female participation in decision-making; and economic structural transformation away from an extractive industry-based economy to one that is driven by services and higher value-added industries.

**Figure 1.2** Sustainable development pathways and resilience

