

Integrating Human Rights and Sustainable Development Systems to Leave No One Behind



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



Promoting and protecting human rights is essential for ensuring sustainable development outcomes. At the same time, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out a vision for sustainable development grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights standards, putting equality and non-discrimination at the center. We need to harness the synergies between human rights and sustainable development systems to leave no one behind.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), in close cooperation with the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), formed a partnership to support integration of human rights and sustainable development systems to accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the full realization of human rights.

In 2021-2022, UNDP and OHCHR provided integrated support at global, regional, and national levels driving transformative systems change in countries, fostering cross-border knowledge exchange, and providing thought leadership and guidance for the UN system and Member States.*

The results of this partnership demonstrate how integrating human rights and SDG systems can boost both the efficiency and effectiveness of efforts to advance human rights and sustainable development.

* This support was made possible by the UN Sustainable Development Group Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund and the UNDP Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice, and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development.

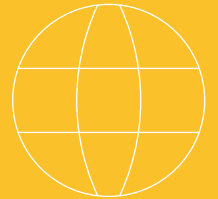
Global Impact

Strengthened integration of human rights and sustainable development systems and approaches in **eight countries**

Increased capacities of national stakeholders to incorporate human rights recommendations into SDG-based national development processes in **five Central Asian countries**

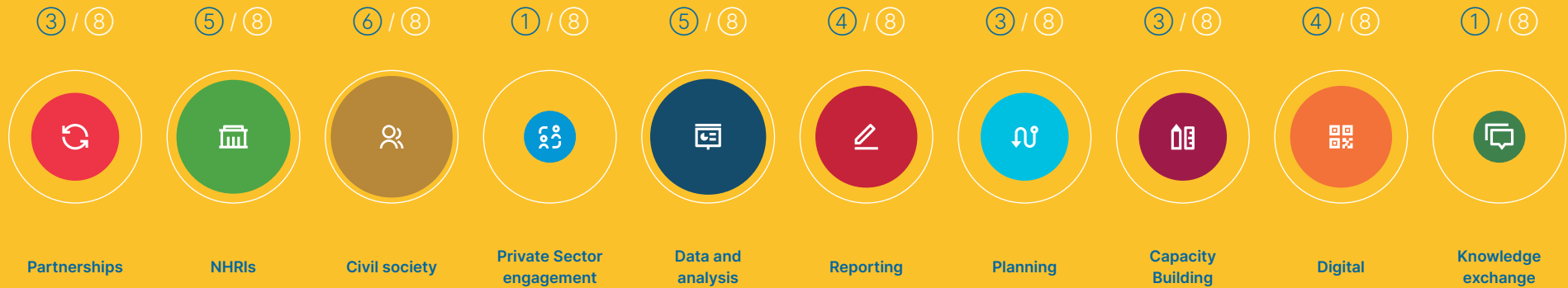
Greater evidence and awareness of how Universal Periodic Review (UPR) processes advance sustainable development

Improved understanding of how to integrate human rights into Voluntary National Review (VNR) processes

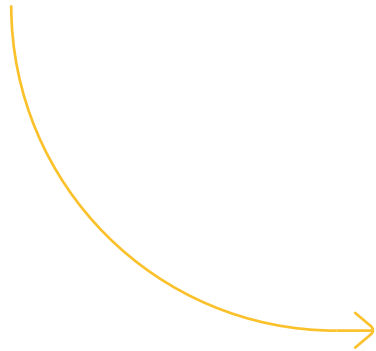


Demand-driven integrated support was provided in 8 countries:

Areas of support



Key Results Achieved





Bosnia and Herzegovina

-  The SDG Council, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees, the national human rights institution (NHRI), and civil society organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina formed an important partnership to improve reporting on the 2030 Agenda and human rights.
-  A gap analysis of human rights and sustainable development data collection and reporting was completed to identify entry points to connect human rights obligations with SDGs implementation.

Increased capacities of 13 representatives of the SDG Council and the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees to strengthen reporting and implementation of UPR recommendations and the SDGs.

Botswana

-  The Botswana Council of Non-governmental Organisations launched the Civil Society Portal to improve coordination between civil society and the government on reporting on the SDGs and human rights.
-  An e-learning course on human rights and the SDGs for national partners and UN staff was developed in collaboration with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute.

Jordan



Jordan developed its **2022 Voluntary National Review (VNR) report through a whole-of-society approach**, including with a focus on human rights and strong engagement from the National Center for Human Rights.



A new public dashboard to monitor SDG progress, the Jordan Development Portal, was launched to strengthen reporting and implementation of the SDGs.

Pakistan



A digital platform, the Human Rights Information Management System, was established to strengthen harmonization of data collection and reporting on human rights and the SDGs.



A National Strategic Framework for Coherence and Harmonization of Human Rights Data Collection and Reporting Mechanisms was launched, outlining the vision of policy coherence between human rights and sustainable development in Pakistan.

Increased capacities of over 200 representatives of government line departments, human rights institutions and civil society organisations to implement the National Strategic Framework for Coherence and Harmonization of Human Rights Data Collection and Reporting Mechanisms.

Rwanda



A comprehensive review of the 2019 VNR and 2020 UPR recommendations was undertaken to identify areas of synergies, complementarities, and gaps between the VNR and UPR processes.



Improved coordination and collaboration between the National Treaty Body Task Force, the SDGs Task Force, and the UN Human Rights Task Force, with representatives of the government, the NHRI, civil society, the private sector, and UN partners.

An in-depth assessment of the status of domestication of SDG 16 in Rwanda was completed to inform development planning.

Sierra Leone



The Government of Sierra Leone launched an Integrated Implementation and Reporting Strategy for the UPR, SDGs, and the Medium-Term National Development Plan through a multistakeholder process.



The National Reporting Mechanism was reactivated and strengthened to track progress in the implementation of the UPR, the SDGs, and national development plans in Sierra Leone.

Tunisia



Tunisia's first SDG16 Progress Report was developed and is expected to be launched in 2023.



Civil society organizations in Medenine launched a Spotlight Report on the status of SDG16.

Public authorities and civil society representatives collaborated to develop concrete recommendations for national development planning based on the findings of the SDG16 reports.

Uruguay



Increased capacities of over 100 civil servants to strengthen alignment of human rights and the SDGs, including through the Uruguay System for Monitoring Recommendations (SIMORE).

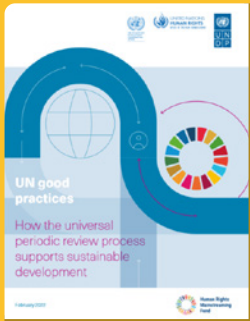


Two South-South cooperation exchanges between Uruguay and Argentina were organized on innovative restorative justice and mediation approaches to support Uruguay's efforts to implement their UPR recommendations and make progress on SDG16.

More than 2,000 people participated in public perception surveys on justice and human rights in Uruguay to inform recommendations for public policy on alternative measures to imprisonment and efforts to implement Uruguay's UPR recommendations.

Featured thought leadership initiatives

Curation and launch of the publication '**UN Good Practices: How The Universal Periodic Review Process Supports Sustainable Development**'



The publication features 18 country level experiences gathered from across the UN system on how the UPR process and recommendations, which advance the promotion and protection of human rights, have had an impact on sustainable development at the country level.

The publication demonstrates how the UPR can be utilized as an essential and practical problem-solving tool to address priority human rights and development challenges and that UPR recommendations are increasingly integrated and aligned with the UN efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in national plans on sustainable development and in UN programming and planning.

Development of guidance for Member States '**Human Rights and Voluntary National Reviews: Common Operational Guidance Note**'



Developed under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights to support placing human rights at the centre of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the guidance provides an overview of the human rights system and the complementarity and entry points that exist in VNR processes.

The guidance includes practical checklists on how to integrate human rights into VNR processes and elaborates on the importance of human rights-based approaches to leaving no one behind, collection and analysis of data, meaningful participation of stakeholders and how to engage human rights actors in VNR preparation and follow-up.

Looking forward

At the midpoint of implementation of 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the international community must accelerate progress to get the SDGs back on track and ensure that no one is left behind.

Leveraging the significant potential of human rights as a problem-solving tool for development challenges is key to achieving the transformative change needed for the wellbeing of people and planet. Human rights mechanisms provide key data and information to guide national level action towards inclusive outcomes.

UNDP and OHCHR are committed to supporting Member States to deliver on the promises of the 2030 Agenda and fulfil their human rights obligations, including through advancing technical cooperation and building national capacities. Sustained investment is necessary to foster systems change and additional resources are required to build upon the results of this partnership and continue to strengthen human rights and sustainable development systems integration at all levels.

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