

# Human Rights and Sustainable Development

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# 1. Introduction

- ▶ Respect for and enforcement of human rights is necessary for sustainable development.
- ▶ Without acknowledging and acting to defend the rights of people, sustainable development is not possible.
- ▶ It is the people who are at the centre of SD.
- ▶ Sustainable development invokes the term: “Sustainability” which means that actions taken in the present to improve the human condition and the earth system in which we live need to be lasting and benefit future generations.

## 2. The Concept of Sustainable development

- ▶ The concept of sustainable development originated with the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), *Our Common Future* (the Brundtland Report) of 1987.
- ▶ The said report states that:

*Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable -to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept of sustainable development does imply **limits** -not absolute limits but limitations imposed by the present state of technology and social organization on environmental resources and by the ability of the biosphere to absorb the effects of human activities . The Commission believes that widespread poverty is no longer inevitable. Poverty is not only an evil in itself, but sustainable development requires meeting the basic **needs of all** and extending to all the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a better life.*

## 2.1 Definition & Concepts contained in sustainable development

- ▶ From the above paragraph:

**Sustainable development** is defined as: *"development which meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."*

- ▶ There are two concepts contained in SD:

- ▶ The concept of **needs**:

SD refers particularly to the needs of the poor to which overriding priority should be given

- ▶ The concept of **limitations**:

imposed by the state of technology and social organisation on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs.

## 2.3 Objectives of SD

- ▶ SD implies 3 main objectives:
  - ▶ Economic development which can also be referred as a mean of poverty alleviation;
  - ▶ Social equity and justice; and
  - ▶ Environment protection.
- ▶ These three objectives are interdependent and mutually reinforcing; they can work in harmony although they are often found to conflict with one another.

- ▶ Economic growth is the basis for human development but should be less environmental destructive.
- ▶ SD is a legal concept that helps to balance our economic, environmental and social needs towards prosperity for now and future generations.
- ▶ SD consists of a long-term, integrated approach to developing and achieving a healthy community by jointly addressing economic, environmental and social issues while avoiding over consumption of natural resources.

- ▶ In the economic development, there should be a priority to the needs of the people, especially those who are in poverty.
- ▶ Also the implication is based on the principle of *inter-generational equity*. It is said that while the present generation is pursuing the economic development and poverty alleviation, this should not cause harm to the environment which the future generations will depend upon in order to meet their needs.
- ▶ In other words, although the sustainable development recognizes the economic development as a mean of achieving poverty alleviation, it limits such development on the ground of environmental protection for the needs of the present and future generations.
- ▶ But the economic development must not be unreasonably restricted to cause poverty, especially in the developing countries.

## 2.4 Elements of SD

- ▶ There are four elements of SD reflected in international agreements:
  1. The need to preserve natural resources for the benefit of future generations (the principle of intergenerational equity);
  2. “Sustainable” or “prudent” or “rational” or “wise” or “appropriate” exploitation of natural resources (the principle of sustainable use);
  3. The equitable use of natural resources, which implies that use by one state must take account of the needs of other states (the principle of equitable use or intra-generational equity); and
  4. The need to ensure that environmental considerations are integrated into economic and other development plans, programmes and projects, and that development needs are taken into account in applying environmental objectives (the principle of integration).
- ▶ The 4 elements of SD are *related* and *used in combination* and *Equity* is at the heart of SD

# Equity

*Equity derives from the concept of social justice. It represents a belief that there are some things which people should have, that there are basic needs that should be fulfilled, that burdens and rewards should not be spread too divergently across the community, and that policy should be directed with impartiality, fairness and justice towards these ends.*

## 2.4.1 Intergenerational equity

- ▶ It means that members of the present generation hold the earth in trust for future generations.
- ▶ Each generation is required to use and develop its natural and cultural heritage in such a manner that it can be passed on to future generations in no worse condition than it was received.
- ▶ This means that there is a need to conserve options for the future use of resources, including their quality and that of the natural environment.

- ▶ This has been recognised in different environmental treaties which seek for preservation of particular natural resources and other environmental assets (wild flora and fauna, essential renewable natural resources, natural heritage, water resources, biological diversity, climate system, etc.) for present and future generations.
- ▶ This has been referred to in the Stockholm declaration (principle 1), Rio Declaration (principle 4) and reiterated on in Vienna Declaration on Human Rights.

- ▶ The underlying policy of inter-generational equity is *avoidance of irreversible harm* and it does provide an essential reference point within which future impacts and concerns must be considered and taken into account by present generations, as well as a process by which these and other concerns can be addressed.

## 2.4.2 Sustainable use

- ▶ This has evolved in the context of conservation of natural resources.
- ▶ It requires that special protection be given to unique areas, representative ecosystems, habitats of rare or endangered species; and also requires that ecosystems, land, atmospheric and water resources be managed to achieve “optimum sustainable productivity” without endangering other ecosystems or species.
- ▶ The use of living resources should not be in excess of their capacity for regeneration and irreversible damage to nature should be avoided.

- ▶ Rio Declaration (principle 8) refers to sustainable use by stating that there is a need to reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.
- ▶ Some conventions (Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention to Combat Desertification) contain the idea that sustainable development involves limits on the utilization of land, water and other natural resources.

- ▶ The use of the precautionary principle (Principle 15 of Rio Declaration) is an element of sustainable use.

## 2.4.3 Intra-generational equity

- ▶ Intra-generational equity addresses the inequity within the economic system.
- ▶ It aims to address the imbalance between the developed and the developing and giving priority to the needs of the poor.
- ▶ It means that all people throughout a community, a village, town, city, country or the entire world, have the same basic needs that must be taken into consideration.

- ▶ Within the community, there should be a minimum level of income and environmental quality below which nobody falls. Everyone should have equal access to community resources and opportunities, and no individuals or groups of people should be asked to carry a greater environmental burden than the rest of the community as the result of government actions.
- ▶ This is important because inequities are a cause of environmental degradation. Poverty deprives people of the choice about whether or not to be environmentally sound in their activities.

- ▶ The Brundtland Commission has stated that:

*Those who are poor and hungry will often destroy their immediate environment in order to survive: they will cut down forests, their livestock will overgraze grasslands, they will overuse marginal land; and in growing numbers, they will crowd into congested city. The cumulative effect of these changes is so far reaching to make poverty itself a major global scourge.*

## 2.4.4 Integration of environmental protection and economic development

- ▶ “Environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it”. (principle 4 Rio Declaration).
- ▶ The objective is to ensure that development decisions do not ignore environmental considerations.
- ▶ Agenda 21 says that there should be more systematic consideration of the environment when decisions are made on economic, social, fiscal, energy, agricultural, transportation, trade, etc.

- ▶ Different multilateral development institutions integrate environmental assessment into their lending policies.
- ▶ However, the pursuit of environmental protection values should not be a barrier to development.

# 3. Environmental protection in achieving sustainable development

- ▶ There are different sectors to be considered in environment protection within the process towards sustainable development:

## 3.1 Natural resource management

- ▶ Natural resources are those parts of the earth's biological and mineral endowments from which societies, directly or indirectly, derive value.

- ▶ It is from natural resources that human beings derive their livelihoods: production of goods, extraction of minerals and other ecosystem services that can sustain development efforts and make positive impacts on the life of citizens.
- ▶ However, many ecosystems are under stress, it is important to optimise the rate at which resources are depleted and minimise resource degradation.

## 3.2 Prevention of environmental pollution caused by production and life activities

Different kinds of pollution (soil, water, air and noise pollution) result from production activities like agricultural, industrial, manufacturing, energy

production activities, transportation activities, etc. In the process of development, impacts of these activities on environment must be considered.

### 3.3 Prevention of environmental damage caused by construction activities

- ▶ Various structures and installations in a place can have impact on environment.
- ▶ The materials used in a construction may on their own or in combination have environmental effects.

- ▶ How and when construction activities are carried out has to be considered.
- ▶ The location of installations or structure needs also to be taken into account.
- ▶ Because construction activities may damage environment by causing noise, release of contaminants, habitat loss/disturbance, displacement, etc.

## 2.4 Control of urban and rural planning

- ▶ Urban and rural planning must assist in the reduction of disparities, the promotion of conditions favourable to development, and a better balance between urban and rural area.
- ▶ Urban settlements hold a promise for human development and protection of natural resources through their ability to support large numbers of people while limiting their impact on the natural environment.

- ▶ However, many cities are characterised by harmful patterns of growth, of production and consumption, of land use and degradation among other things.
- ▶ This causes soil, air and water pollution, waste of resources and destruction of natural resources.
- ▶ Some human settlements are also subject to limited water supply, sanitation and drainage and to dependency upon toxic and non-renewable energy fuel sources and **irreversible loss of biodiversity.**

- ▶ These problems are aggravated by high population growth and the magnitude of rural-to-urban migration.
- ▶ With the aim of sustainable development, it is important to manage the production and consumption patterns, the transport and waste disposal systems in urban areas to preserve the environment. Rural planning is also important to control how the rural areas are exposed to substantial changes in the use of land

- ▶ Plan for sustainable rural development which means planning for improving the quality of life for the rural poor by developing capacities that promote community participation, health and education, food security, environmental protection and sustainable economic growth.

### 3.5 Control of water and soil loss, desertification and forest planting

- ▶ In developmental activities, control of water and soil erosion, prevention of desertification and encouragement of forest plantings are important

## 4. Relationship between human rights and environment protection

- ▶ The protection of the environment and the promotion of human rights are increasingly seen as *interrelated and complementary goals*, and part of the fundamental pillars of sustainable development.
- ▶ The two fields *share a core of common interests and objectives* indispensable for sustainable development: *the well-being of human beings*.
- ▶ Each human being depends on ecosystems and the services they provide, such as food, water, disease management, climate regulation, spiritual fulfilment,

and aesthetic enjoyment. Also, promotion of human rights aim the well-being of human beings.

- ▶ Enjoyment of human rights depends on environmental protection, in turn, environmental protection depends on the exercise of certain human rights, such as the rights to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice.

- ▶ The relationships between human rights and environment protection started being recognised at the international level from the Stockholm conference on Human Environment (1972).
- ▶ Adopted a declaration in which:

► **Principle 1** underlined that:

*“Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being, and he bears a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generations.”*

- ▶ Rio Conference (1992) and Johannesburg summit (2002) emphasised on the rights of individuals to participate in environmental protection.
- ▶ After Rio and Johannesburg, different initiatives continued to advance the interrelationships between human rights and protection of environment.

## 4.1 Substantive rights

### 4.1.1 The right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment

- ▶ This right has not been recognised as a universal human right for long.
- ▶ The Human Rights Council, in its resolution no. 48/13 of 8 October 2021 recognized the importance of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment to the enjoyment of human rights.
- ▶ In 2022, the UN General Assembly recognized it in its landmark resolution no. A/76/L.75 adopted on 28 July 2022.
- ▶ That resolution states that the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is related to other rights and existing international law.

- ▶ However, the right has been recognized for sometime in:
  - ▶ national constitutions,
  - ▶ regional instruments,
  - ▶ domestic laws of countries and
  - ▶ judicial decisions.

- ▶ It has been being recognised under different names: decent,
  - ▶ safe,
  - ▶ healthy,
  - ▶ ecologically sound,
  - ▶ clean,
  - ▶ environment free from contamination, etc.

# What is the meaning of this right:

- ▶ While it can be differently defined, one may say that it is an environment that is:
  - ▶ adequate for the health or well-being of the people.
  - ▶ habitable and ensures the dignity and best attainable levels of health for the people living in it.
  - ▶ favourable to the development of the people.
- ▶ To ensure that right, the environment should be protected through legislative or other measures to free it from pollution and degradation.

- ▶ One may mention that the substantive elements to consider are:
  1. Clean air
  2. Safe climate
  3. Healthy and sustainably produced food
  4. Access to safe water and adequate sanitation
  5. Non-toxic environment in which to live, work and play
  6. Healthy ecosystems and biodiversity

## 4.1.2 Right to life

- ▶ The *right to life*, enshrined in article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is “non-derogable” and foundational, because without it, all other rights would be devoid of meaning.
- ▶ The Human Rights Committee has said that it is a right that should not be interpreted narrowly and that States should take positive measures to guarantee it.
- ▶ The right to life can be affected by environmental disasters and more long-term environmental degradation, which produce life-threatening diseases.

## 4.1.3 Right to health

- ▶ Every human being is entitled to the *enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health* conducive to living in dignity.
- ▶ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognized that the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health embraces a wide range of socio-economic factors that promote conditions in which people can lead a healthy life and extend to the underlying determinants of health, such as food and nutrition, housing, access to safe and potable water and adequate sanitation, safe and healthy working conditions and a healthy environment.
- ▶ Environmental violations constitute threats to human right to life and health.

## 4.1.4 The right to adequate food

- ▶ This is part of the broader right to an adequate standard of living, which also includes housing and clothing, and the distinct fundamental right to be free from hunger, which is closely linked to the right to life.
- ▶ The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights considers that the core content of the right to adequate food implies:
  - ▶ “the availability of food in a quantity and quality sufficient to satisfy the dietary needs of individuals, free from adverse substances, and acceptable within a given culture”.

# 4.1.5 Right to water and sanitation

- ▶ The human right to water and to sanitation constitutes the right of every individual, without discrimination, to sufficient, safe, acceptable, accessible and affordable water and sanitation for personal use.
- ▶ The right to water and sanitation has now received broad international recognition, including through a 2010 Human Rights Council resolution.

- ▶ The commonly accepted criteria for the effectiveness of water and sanitation services require that they be *affordable*; *accessible to all* (including children, the elderly and persons with disabilities); *acceptable* (addressing considerations arising from culture, religion and privacy requirements); *available* at home and at work, and in sufficient quantity); and of *good quality* (meaning that water must be free of harmful contaminants and that services must be safe to use).

- ▶ These rights that are listed are internationally guaranteed, but cannot be enjoyed in a degraded environment.

## 4.2 Procedural rights and environmental protection

### 4.2.1 Access to information

- ▶ Access to environmental information is a prerequisite to public participation in decision-making and to monitoring governmental and private-sector activities.
- ▶ The nature of environmental deterioration, which often arises long after a project is completed and can be irreversible, compels early and complete data to make informed choices.
- ▶ *Transboundary impacts* also produce significant *demands for information across borders*. The rights to information and participation, and their particular importance for both human rights and environment matters, are well reflected in the international legal framework, in both human rights law and environmental law.

- ▶ Access to information can impact economic choices by giving involved parties full information regarding the decisions they make. This will help parties choose decisions that support sustainable development
- ▶ The right to information constitutes an essential feature of democratic processes and of the right to participation in public life.

## 4.2.2 Public Participation

- ▶ The major role played by the public in environmental protection is participation in decision making, especially in environmental impact or other permitting procedures.
- ▶ Public participation is based on the right of those who may be affected, including foreign citizens and residents, to have a say in the determination of their environmental future.

- ▶ Public participation allows for those most impacted by environmental degradation to speak and influence the decisions that will impact their basic human rights, such as right to life and health.
- ▶ By making decisions with the opinions of those most greatly impacted, decisions that will be reached are those that better address poverty issues and encourage sustainable development and a green economy.

## 4.2.3 Access to Justice

- ▶ The right of access to justice guarantees victims of human rights violations an effective remedy. This has been interpreted to include environmental wrongs that impinged upon human rights.
- ▶ This allows for violations of other rights to have consequences and discourages possible violations.
- ▶ By strengthening the access to justice, all other rights are strengthened. In turn, this reinforces human rights and the environmental protection, advancing the promotion of actions that help alleviate poverty and support sustainable development.

# 5. Sustainable development goals and human rights

## 5.1 Sustainable development goals (SDGs)

- ▶ Officially known as **Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.
- ▶ Described by the then-UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon as “**a plan of action for ending poverty in all its dimensions, irreversibly, everywhere, and leaving no one behind.**”
- ▶ They are an intergovernmental set of aspirational 17 goals with 169 targets.

- ▶ The 17 goals are contained in paragraph 54 of the UN Resolution A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015: a broader intergovernmental agreement, the successor of MDGs.
- ▶ SDGs set out quantitative objectives across the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development - all to be achieved by 2030. They provide a framework for shared action formulated around 5Ps:
  - ▶ People
  - ▶ Planet
  - ▶ Prosperity
  - ▶ Peace and
  - ▶ Partnership.

## 5.2 SDGs and related human rights

- ▶ Even though the SDGs do not use a language or word that specifically refers to human rights, both the means and end result of the SDGs' realization promote human rights.
- ▶ There is no particular SDG on human rights because human rights are part and parcel of every SDG. Thus, the failure to uphold human rights in SDG implementation leads to failure of the SDGs.
- ▶ It is estimated that over 90% of SDG targets are embedded in human rights treaties like the UDHR, the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CEDAW, the CRC, the ICERD, the UNCRPD as well as other international and regional instruments and documents relating to human rights.
- ▶ In fact, many of the SDGs and their targets correspond to essential dimensions of states' human rights commitments, as outlined in international human rights treaties.
- ▶ Consequently without progress on implementing those treaties, 90% of SDG targets cannot be realized.

# Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

- ▶ Poverty is manifested by hunger, malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion and lack of participation in decision-making.
- ▶ SDG 1 looks at the intersectionality between poverty, discrimination and key populations. Poor people, homeless, those who cannot secure employment, who do not have identity documents and all structurally challenged people suffer from stigmatization, rejection and discrimination and these are part of the poverty cycle.

# SDG 1 Targets

1. Eradication of extreme poverty for all people everywhere.
2. Reduction of men, women and children who live in poverty in all its dimensions (at least by half).
3. Implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all.
4. Ensuring equal rights to men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, access to: economic resources, basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, financial services.
5. Building the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduction of their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to an adequate standard of living** (Art. 25 UDHR, Art 11 and 12(1) ICESCR, Art 27 CRC)
- ▶ **Right to social security and social protection** (Art 22 UDHR, Art 9 ICESCR, Art 9, Art 28 CRPD, Art 19 (2), 26 CRC, Arts. 27(1), 43(1.e) and 45(1.c) ICRMW, Art. 21(1) UNDRIP, ILO Conventions (no. 102, 118, 157), Art. 20)
- ▶ **Equal rights of women in economic life** (Art 11, 13, 14(2)(g), 15(2)CEDAW), Art. 18 (3), AfCHPR, Arts. 2(1), 13(a,b,e,h,j,k), 19 (a,b,d,e,f), Maputo Protocol to the AfCHPR on the Rights of Women in Africa).
- ▶ **Right to work** (Art. 6 ICESCR, Art. 5 ICERD, Art. 15 AfCHPR)

- ▶ **Equal right to property** (Art. 17(1) UDHR, Art. 1(2) ICCPR, Art. 2(2) and 5 (d)(v) ICERD).
- ▶ **Rights of indigenous peoples** to develop politically ,economically and socially and to secured enjoyment of their subsistence and development means (Art. 20 UNDRIP).
- ▶ **Rights of the child** to survival, protection and development, and protection from work and at work (Arts. 5.2, 13.2, 15.2 and 20.2 CRC,

## Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

- ▶ The way we grow, share and consume our food is important.
- ▶ Extreme hunger and malnutrition are a barrier to sustainable development.
- ▶ Hunger and malnutrition mean less productive individuals, who are are vulnerable to diseases and thus unable to earn more and improve their livelihoods.
- ▶ SDG 2 integrates and links food security, nutrition and a sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture.
- ▶ It focuses on the role of small producers in the agriculture sector as an important element.

# Targets of SDG 2

1. End hunger and ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round, to all people particularly the poor, people in vulnerable situations, including infants.
2. End all forms of malnutrition, achieve by 2025, the international targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5, and address the nutritional needs of particular groups.
3. Doubling agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly certain groups, through among other things, secured and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

4. Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices
5. Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.

# Related right

- ▶ **Right to food** (Art 25 UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR, Art 24 (2)(c) CRC, Art 28(1) CRPD, Art 5(2), 14 (2)(c,d,e,h), 20(2)(a) AfCHPR, Art 6 (j), 7(d), 13(e), 14(2)(b), 15 (a,b), 18(2)(c), 19(c,d) and 21(1,2) Maputo Protocol to the AfCHPR, Art 12(2), 22(a), 24 (a,b) CEDAW, Art 26(1,2), 29(1), 31(1) UNDRIP,

# Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all age

- ▶ Ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all at all ages is important to sustainable development.
- ▶ It is important to building prosperous societies.
- ▶ Unfortunately, inequalities in health services access still persist worldwide and a big number of children still dies before they reach their 5th birthday. Also epidemics are still a danger to human health.
- ▶ SDG 3 seeks to ensure health and well-being for all, at every stage of life.
- ▶ WHO defined health as “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”.

# SDG 3 targets

1. Reduce global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.
2. End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5.
3. End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.
4. Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (by 1/3) and promote mental health and well-being.
5. Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

6. Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents
7. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services.
8. Achieve universal health coverage.
9. Reduce substantially the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to life** (Art. 3 UDHR, Art 6 ICCPR, Art. 12 CEDAW, Art 6 CRC, Art 10, UNCRPD, Art 9 ICRMW, Art 7(1), UNDRIP, Art 4 AfCHPR, Art 7 UNDRPD)
- ▶ **Right to health** (Art. 25 UDHR, Art. 12 ICESCR, Art. 12 CEDAW, Art 25, UNCRPD, Art.24 CRC, Art 28 & 41(1.e) ICRMW, Art 24 (1,2) UNDRIP, Art 14 (2.e, 16 AfCHPR)
- ▶ **Special protection for mothers and children** (Art. 25 UDHR, Art 10 ICESCR, Art 2 UCRC, Art 14 (1) and 20(2.a) AfCHPR, Art 14 AfCRWC, Art 14 Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its application** (Art 27 UDHR, Art 15 (1)(b) ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment**

## Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning

- ▶ Obtaining quality education is the basis of improving lives and sustainable development.
- ▶ Education is the key that will allow many other SDGs to be achieved.
- ▶ When people are able to get quality education they can break from the cycle of poverty.
- ▶ Education also helps to reduce inequalities and to reach gender equality.
- ▶ Education also empowers people everywhere to live more healthy and sustainable lives and is crucial to fostering tolerance between people and contributes to more peaceful societies.

# SDG 4 targets

1. Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education.
2. Ensure to all girls and boys access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education.
3. Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.
4. Increase substantially the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
5. Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.

6. Ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.

7. Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development through, among other things, educating them on:

- sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles,
- human rights,
- gender equality,
- promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence,
- global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to education** (Art. 26 UDHR, Art 13 ICESCR Arts. 23 (3), 28, 29 CRC, Art. 24 CRPD, Art 14 UNDRIP, Art 30 ICRMW, Art 14 UNDRIP, Art 17 AfCHPR, Art 11 AfCRWC)
- ▶ **Equal rights of women and girls in the field of education** (Art. 3, 6(2),10, 12 CEDAW, Art 18(3) AfCHPR, Art 11 AfCRWC, Art 12 Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Non-discrimination of certain categories of people** (Art 26 UDHR, Art 3, 6 (2.c) and 13 (2.c) ICESCR, Art 43 ICRMW, Art 21 UNDRIP,
- ▶ **Right to work, including technical and vocational training** (Art. 6 ICESCR)

# Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- ▶ Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are both urgent issues for building an inclusive society and a strong economy in many developing countries.
- ▶ Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.
- ▶ ‘Gender equality’ means that ‘men and women should have equal conditions for realizing their full human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural and political development, and
- ▶ ‘Empowerment’ is the process by which ‘people - both women and men - take control over their lives: setting their own agendas, gaining skills, building self-confidence, solving problems and developing self-reliance.

# SDG 5 targets

1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
3. Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
4. Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work.
5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as internationally agreed.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Non-discrimination against women** (Art 2 UDHR, Art 3 ICCPR, Art 2 ICESCR, Arts. 1-5, 15 CEDAW, Arts. 2 , 7, 11, 13 and 16 CRC, Art 22(2) UNCDRIP, Art 2 AfCHPR, Art 1(1) and 3 AfCRWC, Art 2 Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Right to consent to marriage and decide the number and spacing of children** (Art 16 UDHR, Art 10(1) ICESCR, Arts. 6, 12, 16 (1.e) (2) CEDAW, Art. 24(2)(f) and 24(3) CRC, Art. 21 AfCRWC)
- ▶ **Special protection for mothers and children** (Art 10 (2) ICESCR, Art 15, 16, 27 and 29 AfCRWC, Art 3(3) Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Right of women and girls to be protected from violence** (Art 3 UDHR, Art 10, ICESCR, Art 1-6 CEDAW arts. 1- 6, Art 2, 19 34, and 35 UNCRC, Art 16 UNCRPD, Art 10 and 16 ICRMW, Art 22(2) UNDRIP, Art 4 & 5 AfCHPR, Arts 2 3(4), 4, 5 and 13(g) Maputo Protocol)

- ▶ **Right to just and favourable conditions of work** (Art 7 ICESCR, Art 11 and 14(1) CEDAW, Art 15 AfCHPR, Art 20 AfCRWC, Art 13 Maputo Protocol).
- ▶ **Right to social security** (Art 9 ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right to participation in decision-making** (Art 21(1) UDHR, Art 25 (a,b) ICCPR, Art 5 (c) ICERD, Art 9(a,b) CEDAW, Art 13 (1,2) AfCHPR)

# Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all

- ▶ Clean and accessible water for all is an essential part of the world we want to live in.
- ▶ Sufficient fresh water (in quantity and quality) is essential for all aspects of life and sustainable development.
- ▶ Water resources are embedded in all forms of development such as food security, health promotion and poverty reduction, in sustaining economic growth in agriculture, industry and energy generation, and in maintaining healthy ecosystems.
- ▶ Water-related ecosystems and the environment have always provided natural sites for human settlements and civilizations, bringing benefits such as transportation, natural purification, irrigation, flood protection and habitats for biodiversity.

- ▶ Unfortunately, population growth, agricultural intensification, urbanization, industrial production and pollution, and climate change are beginning to overwhelm and undermine nature's ability to provide the above key functions and services.
- ▶ It has been estimated that if the natural environment continues to be degraded and unsustainable pressures put on global water resources, 45% of the global gross domestic product, 52 per cent of the world's population and 40 per cent of global grain production will be put at risk by 2050.
- ▶ The poor and marginalized populations will be disproportionately impacted which will further exacerbate rising inequalities.

# SDg 6 targets

- ▶ SDG 6 reflects the increased attention on water and sanitation issues in the global political agenda.
- ▶ It has 6 targets:
  1. Achieve access to safe and affordable drinking water
  2. Achieve access to sanitation and hygiene and end open defecation
  3. Improve water quality, wastewater treatment and safe reuse
  4. Increase water-use efficiency and ensure freshwater supplies
  5. Implement integrated water resources management
  6. Protect and restore water-related ecosystems.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to safe drinking water and sanitation** (Art. 11 ICESCR, Art 24(2.c) CRC, Art 14(2.c) AfCRWC)
- ▶ **Right to health** [Art. 25 UDHR, Art 12 ICESCR, Art 16(1) AfCHPR)
- ▶ **Equal access to water and sanitation for rural women** [Art 14 (2)(h) CEDAW, Art 28(2.a) UNCRPD, Art 29(2) UNDRIP, Art 15(a) and 18 Maputo Protocol).

## Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

- ▶ Access to energy is essential for all and sustainable energy transforms lives.
- ▶ It will open a new world of opportunities for people through new economic opportunities and jobs, empowered women, children and youth, better education and health, more sustainable, equitable and inclusive communities, and greater protections from, and resilience to, climate change.
- ▶ Though the services that energy provides have been around for so long, not everyone has enjoyed the benefits that modern energy forms can provide. Energy resources are unevenly distributed around the world, and there are places where they exist but financial and human capital constraints often result in some being left out of the modern energy society.

# SDG 7 targets

1. Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
2. Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
3. Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

► **Related rights:**

- **Right to an adequate standard of living** (Art 25 UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR, Art 14(2.h) CEDAW, Art 28(1) CRPD, Art 22(2) and 24 AfCHPR, Art 21(1) UNDRIP)
- **Right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its application** (Art 27 UDHR, Art 15 (1) (b), Art 18(2.b) Maputo Protocol)

# Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

- ▶ Quality jobs that stimulate economy while not harming environment are the foundation of sustainable economic growth
- ▶ SDG 8 is significant for the following reasons:
  1. It demands innovative thinking in relation to the character of economic growth. It must be a “*sustained economic growth*” that takes a long-term view, with diverse productive activities and stable financial investments. It also has to be “*inclusive economic growth*” which ensures shared prosperity for all workers and communities within and among countries. Further, it has to be a “*sustainable economic growth*” in compliance with the collective obligation to protect our shared environment and preserve the planet.

2. It emphasizes on looking at the world of work from the perspective of *social justice* which is fundamental to the sustained economic growth to be fought for. This means that there should be *decent work* which means full and productive employment, with respect of labour rights, universal social protection and collective bargaining.

3. Its attainment is closely linked to the other Goals - particularly those calling for the eradication of poverty and hunger (SDGs 1 and 2), the promotion of good health and well-being and gender equality (SDGs 3 and 5), the quality education (SDG 4), reduction of inequality (SDG 10), and the promotion of peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16), Thus, failure to make progress on the other SDGs would impede the attainment of SDG 8.

# SDG 8 targets

1. Sustain per capita economic growth of at least 7% gross domestic product growth per year in the least developed countries.
2. Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation.
3. Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises.

4. Improve progressively global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to dissociate economic growth from environmental degradation.

5. Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

6 Reduce substantially the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training by 2020.

7. Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, and end child labour in all its forms by 2025.

8. Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers.
9. Devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.
10. Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work** (Art 23 UDHR, Arts 6, 7, 10 ICESCR, Art 15, 22 and 24 AfCHPR, Core Labour Conventions and ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work)
- ▶ **Prohibition of slavery, forced labour, and trafficking of persons** (Art 4 UDHR, Art 8 ICCPR, Art 8 CEDAW, Art 34-36 CRC)
- ▶ **Equal rights of all categories of people in relation to employment** (Art 11, 13(b) and 14(1) CEDAW, Art 18(2.b&c) and Art 13, 19(d) Maputo Protocol, Art 5(e.i) ICERD, Arts 24 & 27 CRPD, Art 25 ICRMW, Art 17(3) UNDRIP ILO Conventions No. 100 and No. 111)
- ▶ **Prohibition of child labour** (Art 32 CRC, ILO Convention No. 182)
- ▶ **Right to benefit from scientific progress** (Art 27(1,2) UDHR, Art 15(1.b) ICESCR, Art 18(2.b & c) Maputo Protocol)

## Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

- ▶ The concept of building *'resilient' infrastructure*, expresses the need to create physical infrastructure that is proactive in accepting the inevitability of shocks and challenges, and which is able to absorb and adapt to changing conditions.
- ▶ Promoting *'inclusive' industrialisation* means the need for industry development to ensure 'decent work for all' as per SDG 8. It also implies that development of industrialisation must have support and commitment across all stakeholders affected by such development.
- ▶ Industrialization has to be underpinned by *'sustainable'* activity which directly leads to the essence of sustainable development across the three Ps (profit, people, planet).

- ▶ *‘Fostering innovation’* is associated with positive creative endeavours that add to progress and prosperity of the regional space within which the innovation is successfully adopted. *However*, this has some critiques that innovation is often accompanied by significant ecological destruction and undermines the social fabric of the society due to competition for sought-after positional goods that result from innovation.

# SDG 9 targets

1. Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure (regional and transborder) to support economic development and human well-being.
2. Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product.
3. Increase access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises to financial services and their integration into value chains and markets.

4. Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes.

5. Enhance scientific research, upgrade technological capabilities of industrial sectors particularly in developing countries, by encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its application** (Art 27 UDHR, Art 15 (1) (b) ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right to access to information** (Art 19 UDHR, Art 19 (2) ICCPR)
- ▶ **Right to adequate housing** (Art 25 UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR)

# Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

- ▶ Impacts of inequality on social and economic development are clearly recognised and understood. Inequality has a significant influence on economic growth, poverty reduction, social and economic stability and sustainable development.
  - differential concentration of income across rich and poor segments of a society reduces aggregate demand.
  - The major concentration of money in economically well off categories of people encourages consumption patterns that suit only their requirements.

- Inequalities further reduce opportunities and social mobility, including intergenerational mobility, and thereby pose serious barriers to social development.
- Growing discontent among disadvantaged social groups could lead to social tension and unrest.
- All the above led to the consideration of inequality in the global debate and it is considered that Economic growth should be inclusive and involve 3 dimensions of sustainable development

# SDG 10 targets

1. Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.
2. Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status
3. Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promote appropriate related legislation, policies and action.
4. Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.

5. Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen their implementation.
6. Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions
7. Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to equality and non-discrimination** (Art 2 UDHR, Art 2 (2) ICESCR, Arts 2(1), 26 ICCPR, Art 2 (2) CERD, Art 2 CEDAW, Art 2 CRC, Art 5 CRPD, Art 7 CMW).
- ▶ **Right to participate in public affairs** (Art 21 UDHR, Art 25 ICCPR, Art 7 CEDAW, Art 5 ICERD, Art 29 CRPD).
- ▶ **Right to social security** (Art 22 UDHR, Arts 9-10 ICESCR. Art 28 CRPD).
- ▶ **Promotion of conditions for international migration** (Art 64 CMW).
- ▶ **Right of migrants to transfer their earnings and savings** (Art 47 (1) CMW).

# Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- ▶ Urbanization is among the most significant global trends of the 21st century.
- ▶ If planned and managed correctly, urbanization can help to overcome some major global challenges such as poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, climate change fragility.
- ▶ Increases in the urban population and cities growth in space have some important social, behavioural, political, economic and environmental dimensions.

- ▶ However, many challenges exist when trying to maintain cities in a way that they continue to create jobs and prosperity while not straining land and other resources.
- ▶ While trying to overcome such challenges, the growth must be ensured while improving resource use and reducing pollution and levels of poverty.
- ▶ Given the importance of cities, a stand-alone and dedicated urban sustainable development goal was established.
- ▶ SDG 11 lies on the premise that everyone must have a dignified life and live in an environment that allows people to grow and flourish.

# SDG 11 targets

1. Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and upgrade slums.
2. Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all.
3. Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.
4. Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

5. Reduce significantly the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the losses caused by disasters

6. Reduce the adverse environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.

7. Provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to adequate housing**, including land and resources (Art 25 UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR, Art 5(e.iii) ICERD, Art 14(2.h0, CEDAW, Art 28(1) CRPD, Art 43(1.d) ICRMW, Art 21(1) UNDRIP, Art 16 Maputo Protocol).
- ▶ **Right to participation** (Art 21(1) UDHR, Art 25 ICESCR, Arts 5, 7 ICERD, Art 12(1), Art 7 CEDAW, Art, 4(3), 9(1.a) and 30 CRPD, Art 41 (1,2), 42(1,2,3) ICRMW, Art 13 AfCHPR, Art 13(1,3) AfCRWC, Art 9 and 23(a) Maputo Protocol).
- ▶ **Accessibility of transportation, facilities and services** (Art 9(1) CRPD, Art 23 CRC, Art 14 (2.h) CEDAW, Art 18(4) AfCHPR, Art 13(3) AfCRWC)
- ▶ **Protection from natural disasters** (Art CRPD art. 11).

# Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- ▶ The way societies use and care for natural resources fundamentally shapes the well-being of human beings, the environment and the economy.
- ▶ SDGs aim to dissociate economic growth from unsustainable resource use and environmental degradation through improved resource efficiency.
- ▶ A big issue is the extraction of primary materials which has tripled in the past four decades, and has led to huge environmental damage and depletion of natural resources, and growth of inequalities within and between countries.
- ▶ The richest countries consume 10 times as many materials as the world's poorest, and the efficiency of resource use at a global level is falling as a number of emerging economies grow rapidly.

- ▶ SDG 12 therefore promotes SCP which requires using services and producing products that minimize the use of natural resources and toxic materials as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product to protect the needs of future generations.
- ▶ SCP will enable countries and businesses to meet their needs and the needs of individuals with less use of natural resources and less pollution and environmental degradation.
- ▶ SCP will help promote resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure and provide access to basic services, decent jobs and better quality of life.

# SDG 12 targets

1. Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns.
2. Achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
3. Halve global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains.
4. Achieve, by 2020, the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle and reduce their release into air, water and soil.

5. Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
6. Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle (particularly the large and multinationals).
7. Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable.
8. Ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to health** including the right to safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 12 ICESCR, Art 16 AfCHPR, Art 18(1,2.e) Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Right to adequate food and the right to safe drinking water** (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right of all peoples to freely dispose of their natural resources** (Art 1(2) ICCPR, Art 1(2) ICESCR, Art 25, 26(1,2) UNDRIP, ILO Convention (no. 169) on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, Art 21 AfCHPR, Art 11(2.g) AfCRWC)
- ▶ **Right to information** (Art 29(2) UNDRIP).

# Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- ▶ Climate change is a global challenge that does not respect national borders; emissions anywhere have an impact on people everywhere.
- ▶ Every country in the world is affected by climate change. Economies of countries are negatively influenced by climate change which impacts on the lives and creates increased costs for people, communities and countries and the poorest and most vulnerable are being affected the most.
- ▶ CC is an issue that requires solutions coordinated at the international level and international cooperation in helping countries move towards a low-carbon economy.

# SDG 13 targets

1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.
2. Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.
3. Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to life** (Art 3 UDHR, Art 6 (1) ICCPR, Art 6 (1) CRC, Art 10 CRPD, Art 9 ICRMW, Art 7 (1) UNDRIP, Art 5(1) AfRWC, Art 4(1) Maputo Protocol).
- ▶ **Right to health** including the right to safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 12 ICESCR, Art 24 CRC, Art 12 & 14(2.h) CEDAW, Art 28 ICRMW, Art 24 AfCHPR, Art 14(1) AfCRWC, Art 18(1) Maputo Protocol).
- ▶ **Right to adequate food & right to safe drinking water** (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right to information and participation in public affairs** (art 21(1) UDHR, Art 25(a,b) ICCPR, Art 5(c) CRPD, Art 12(1) CRC, Art 7(b,c) CEDAW, Art 4(3), 9 (2.g & h) and 21 CRPD, Art 41(1,2), 42(1-3) ICRMW, Art 5 & 18 UNDRIP, Art 9 AfCHPR, Art 7 AfCRWC).

# Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources

- ▶ Our rainwater, drinking water, weather, climate, much of our food and oxygen are all provided and regulated by the seas and oceans.
- ▶ Seas and oceans provide key natural resources: food, medicines, biofuels and other products.
- ▶ They help with the breakdown and removal of waste and pollution.
- ▶ Their coastal ecosystems act as buffers to reduce damage from storms.
- ▶ Maintaining healthy oceans supports climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts.
- ▶ Marine areas contribute to poverty reduction by increasing fish catches and income, and improving health.

- ▶ The marine environment is also home to an important variety of beautiful creatures, ranging from small organisms to the biggest animals.
- ▶ They are also home to coral reefs, one of the most diverse ecosystems on the planet.

#### Unfortunately there is:

- ▶ an increase of debris in the oceans with significant environmental and economic impact.
- ▶ destruction of coral reefs due to human pressures.
- ▶ improper management of fish resources (overfishing) with associated economic losses.
- ▶ ***Therefore*** careful management of oceans and seas is a key feature of a sustainable future.

# SDG 14 targets

1. Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds (by 2025).
2. Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.
3. Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.
4. Effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans (by 2020).

5. Conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information (by 2020).
6. Address certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
7. Increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to health** including the right to safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 12 ICESCR, Art. 16 & 24 AfCHPR, Art 24 CRC, Art 12 CEDAW, Art. 18(1) Maputo Protocol, Art 28 CMW)
- ▶ **Right to adequate food & right to safe drinking water** (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right of all peoples to freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources** (Art 1 (2) ICCPR, Art 1(2) ICESCR, Art 25 & 26 UNDRIP, Art 21(1) AfCHPR).

# Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

- ▶ Earth supports life and its ecosystems provide environmental services and fulfil the necessities of life for all living beings, including humans. They are provided free of charge, continuously, voluntarily and generously.
- ▶ Maintaining earth's ecosystems is necessary for mitigation of natural disasters, maintaining the productivity of agricultural systems, and adapt to climate change.
- ▶ However, human beings have damaged such ecosystems with disastrous impacts on development and standards of living, and the poor are affected the most.
- ▶ SDG15 came to guide human beings' efforts towards conservation and protection of life on land.

# SDG 15 Targets

1. Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services (by 2020).
2. Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, stop deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally (by 2020).
3. Combat desertification, restore land and soil degraded due to desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.
4. Ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.
5. Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, stop biodiversity loss.

6. Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, according to international agreements.
7. Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and addressing both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.
8. Introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species (by 2020).
9. Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies (by 2020).

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to health** including the right to safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 12 ICESCR, Art 24 CRC, Art 12 CEDAW, Art 28 ICRMW, Art 16(1) AfCHPR, ).
- ▶ **Right to adequate food & right to safe drinking water** (Art 25 (1) UDHR, Art 11 ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right of all peoples to freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources** (Art 1 (2) ICCPR, ICESC, Art 26(2) UNDRIP, Art 21(1) AfCHPR, Art 19(c) Maputo Protocol)
- ▶ **Right to a healthy and sustainable environment**

# Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

- ▶ To achieve SDGs, there should be peaceful, just and inclusive societies because all people everywhere need to be free of fear from all forms of violence and feel safe as they go about their lives whatever their ethnicity, faith or sexual orientation.
- ▶ It is also necessary to have effective and inclusive public institutions that can deliver quality education and healthcare, fair economic policies and inclusive environmental protection.
- ▶ Governments, civil society and communities must work together to reduce violence, deliver justice, combat corruption and ensure inclusive participation at all times.

# SDG 16 Targets

1. To reduce significantly all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
2. To end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
3. Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
4. Significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combatting all forms of organized crime.
5. Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.

6. Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
7. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
8. Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.
9. Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms in accordance with national and international laws.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right to life, liberty and security of the person** (Art 3 UDHR, Arts 6 (1), 9 (1) ICCPR, Art 1 ICPEP including freedom from torture (Art 5 UDHR, Art 7 ICCPR, Art 37 (a) CRC)
- ▶ **Protection of children from all forms of violence, abuse or exploitation** (Arts 19, 7 (a), including trafficking (Art 34-36, CRC-OP1)
- ▶ **Right to access to justice and due process** (Arts 9 & 10 UDHR, Art 2 (3), 14-15 ICCPR, Art 2 (c) CEDAW .
- ▶ **Right to legal personality** (Art 6 UDHR, Art 16 ICCPR, Art 12 CRPD)
- ▶ **Right to participate in public affairs** (Art 21 UDHR, Art 25 ICCPR).

# Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

- ▶ SDG 17 reflects the interdependence, complementarity, and shared and differentiated responsibilities of all countries to support transformative change.
- ▶ It calls mobilising political will and strengthening partnerships between government, the private sector and civil society.
- ▶ SDG 7 also requires increasing international cooperation and improving coherence between policies and initiatives both domestically and internationally.
- ▶ The partnerships are needed in the areas of Finance, technology, capacity building, and in systemic issues namely policy and institutional governance, multi-stakeholder partnerships and data, monitoring and accountability.

# Related rights

- ▶ **Right of all peoples to self-determination** (Art 1 (1) ICCPR, ICESCR)
- ▶ **Right of all peoples to development, & international cooperation** (Art 28 UDHR, Art 2 (1) ICESCR, Art 4 CRC, Art 32 (1) CRPD)
- ▶ **Right of everyone to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its application, including international cooperation in the scientific field** (Art 27 (1) UDHR, Art 15 (1) ICESCR)