

August-September 2016

New UN websites & publications

UN in General

Seventy-first session of the General Assembly

The 71st regular session of the General Assembly opened on 13 September 2016, the General Debate will start on 20 September 2016.

English: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/>

French: <http://www.un.org/fr/ga/>

Spanish: <http://www.un.org/es/ga/>

Press Kit

English: <http://www.un.org/en/ga/71/presskit/>

French: <http://www.un.org/fr/ga/71/presskit/>

Spanish: <http://www.un.org/es/ga/71/presskit/>

General Debate website

English: <https://gadebate.un.org/>

French: <https://gadebate.un.org/fr>



UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

19 September 2016 • UN Headquarters

English: <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/summit>

French: <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/fr/summit-refugees-and-migrants>

Spanish: <http://refugeesmigrants.un.org/es/summit-refugees-and-migrants>

The UN General Assembly will host a high-level summit on 19 September 2016 at UN Headquarters to address large movements of refugees and migrants, with the aim of bringing countries together behind a more humane and coordinated approach. This is the first time the General Assembly has called for a summit at the Heads of State and Government level on large movements of refugees and migrants and it is a historic opportunity to come up with a blueprint for a better international response. It is a watershed moment to strengthen governance of international migration and a unique opportunity for creating a more responsible, predictable system for responding to large movements of refugees and migrants.

Draft outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants (A/70/L.61, 30 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/70/L.61>

Getting Started with the SDGs in Cities: A Guide for Stakeholders (July 2016)

<http://unsdsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/9.1.8.-Cities-SDG-Guide.pdf>



Getting Started with the SDGs in Cities
A Guide for Stakeholders July 2016



This guide, jointly developed by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the German government, outlines how cities and human settlements can get started with implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Effective and decisive action on sustainable development at the local level, within all cities and human settlements, is crucial to the success of Agenda 2030. Despite the key role of local authorities in SDG implementation, there is very little guidance material currently available on how to adapt the global goals to the local level. The SDG Cities Guide aims to fill this knowledge-gap, and suggest how city leaders, local practitioners and policy makers can use the SDGs to guide on the ground planning and development.

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him - Note by the Secretary-General (A/70/1017, 17 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/70/1017>

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon released on 24 August 2016 a follow-up note to the 2015 report of an Independent Panel of Experts that was established to examine and assess new information regarding the death of former UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld. The panel was appointed by Mr. Ban at the request of the UN General Assembly, which also requested its Member States to release any relevant records in their possession as well as to provide the UN chief any relevant information related to the death of the former Secretary-General and of the members of his party.

Peace and Security

Breaking the Vicious Cycle of Conflict in South Sudan: A Call to Action (UNDP, South Sudan Country Office, August 2016)

<https://un4.me/2ct5h03>

The recent eruption of fighting in Juba, reflects the multifaceted underlying challenges of peace consolidation. The Agreement to Resolve Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan remains salient both in letter and spirit. It is critical that we reflect carefully and dispassionately on what must be done to engender and consolidate peace, and put the country on the path of transformation and prosperity. UNDP staff in South Sudan have reflected on this very issue given the unfortunate turn of events in Juba. Their thoughts trigger further reflections on the critical pathways and priority actions to achieve the aspiration of sustainable peace and development in South Sudan.



Fighting Human Trafficking in Conflict: 10 Ideas for Action by the United Nations Security Council (UNU)

Report in English, Executive Summary in English & French:

<https://unu.edu/fighting-human-trafficking-in-conflict>

An estimated 45.8 million people live in modern slavery. The International Labour Organization estimates that global profits from forced labour surpass US\$150 billion per annum, suggesting that slavery, forced labour and human trafficking are more profitable than the global arms trade. Today, non-state armed groups like Da'esh/Islamic State and Boko Haram actively promote slavery both as a means to finance themselves and as a method of war. With the UN Security Council about to receive a report from the Secretary-General on Trafficking in Persons in Conflict, there is a unique opening for action on this issue. This new report reviews the tools available to the UN Security Council and member states and suggests 10 ideas for action, providing concrete steps for the UN Security Council and its partners to take to sever the link between conflict and slavery.

Security Council open debate on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/S/2016/712>

The Security Council held an open debate on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction on 23 August 2016. The Security Council President for August, Malaysia, has prepared this concept note.

Third report of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism Joint Investigative Mechanism (S/2016/738, 24 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/S/2016/738>

The Syrian Airforce and ISIL used toxic chemicals as weapons, according to a new report issued on 30 August 2016 by the Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM), and mandated by the UN Security Council. The Mechanism, led by a three-person Leadership Panel (Virginia Gamba, Adrian Neritani, Eberhard Schanze), examined nine cases of previously-documented chemical weapons use to establish who was responsible for using them. The Panel found what it described as "sufficient evidence" of three cases of chemical weapons use – two chlorine gas attacks on civilians by the Syrian air force, and another use of "sulphur-mustard" gas by the terrorist group ISIL, or Daesh – in Syria between 2014 and 2015

Further information: UN News Centre – INTERVIEW: The Syrian forces and ISIL used toxic chemicals as weapons – report: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54795>

UN Mission in Colombia

English & Spanish: <http://colombia.unmissions.org/>

The Secretary-General welcomed the joint communiqué issued by the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP, on 19 January 2016, announcing their decision to ask the Security Council to establish a political mission composed of unarmed international observers.

The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2261, on 25 January 2016, to establish a political mission of unarmed international observers to monitor and verify the laying down of arms, and be part of the tripartite mechanism that will monitor and verify the definitive bilateral ceasefire and cessation of hostilities, following the signing of a peace agreement.

Economic & Social Development

90-90-90

On the right track towards global target (UNAIDS)

http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/90_90_90_Progress_ReportFINAL.pdf

Introduction: "Just as the AIDS response has altered our world – demonstrating what can be achieved through international solidarity and evidence-based action – the 90–90–90 agenda has in two short years rejuvenated the AIDS response. With renewed optimism and a commitment to letting science guide our actions, the AIDS response and the broader global community have united around the goal of achieving 90–90–90 and ending the AIDS epidemic as a public health threat."



Global Education Monitoring Report 2016 (UNESCO)

Report: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002457/245752e.pdf>

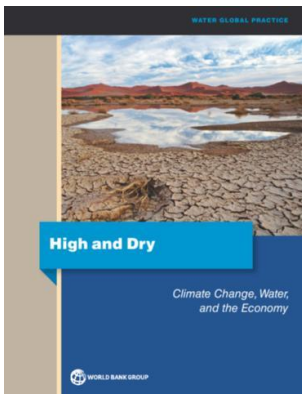
Press releases & infographics: <http://en.unesco.org/gem-report/>

The 2016 GEM Report is the first of a new 15-year series.

It shows that education will not deliver its full potential to catapult the world forward unless participation rates dramatically improve, learning becomes a lifelong pursuit and education systems fully embrace sustainable development.

High and Dry: Climate Change, Water, and the Economy (World Bank Working Paper)

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/23665>



The impacts of climate change will be channelled primarily through the water cycle, with consequences that could be large and uneven across the globe. Water-related climate risks cascade through food, energy, urban, and environmental systems. Growing populations, rising incomes, and expanding cities will converge upon a world where the demand for water rises exponentially, while supply becomes more erratic and uncertain. They will jeopardize growth prospects in the regions worst affected and in some of the poorest countries. These challenges are not insurmountable, however, and smart policies that induce water-use efficiency, align incentives across regional and trading partners, and invest in adaptive technologies can go a long way toward reducing or eliminating these negative effects.

Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025: Investing in environmental sustainability to achieve social and economic development (UNEP)

English: http://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/mssd_2016-2025_final.pdf

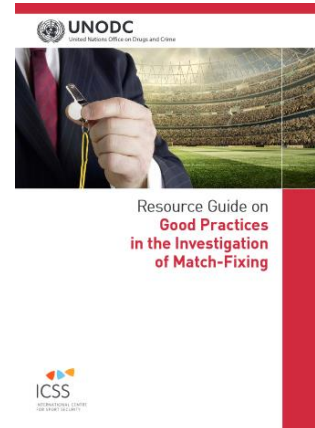
French: http://planbleu.org/sites/default/files/publications/smdm_2016-2025_final.pdf

The Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development 2016-2025 aims to contribute significantly to the long-term sustainable development vision for the Mediterranean region, especially within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It presents strategic directions supporting disaster preparedness, adaptive actions and urban resilience to reduce vulnerability to disaster risks. The Strategy is articulated around six objectives at the intersection between environment and development: 1) Ensuring sustainable development in marine and coastal areas; 2) Promoting resource management, food production and food security through sustainable forms of rural development; 3) Planning and managing sustainable Mediterranean cities, including enhancing urban resilience in order to reduce vulnerability to risks from natural and human-induced hazards including climate change; 4) Addressing climate change as a priority issue for the Mediterranean; 5) Transition towards a green and blue economy; 6) Improving governance in support of sustainable development.

Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing (UNODC / ICSS)

<https://un4.me/2bFsQUj>

Following on from the partnership signed last year at the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC and the International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS) unveiled on 23 August 2016 a new resource guide that will help law enforcement and sports organizations better detect and investigate match-fixing and cases of sports-results manipulation. Over 40 international integrity experts contributed their knowledge to the development of the resource guide. These include officials from FIFA, the International Olympic Committee, INTERPOL, the European Commission, Hong Kong Jockey Club, World Snooker, Council of Europe, Ministries of Justice from France and the Republic of Korea, and EUROPOL.



Rural Development Report 2016: Fostering inclusive rural transformation (IFAD)

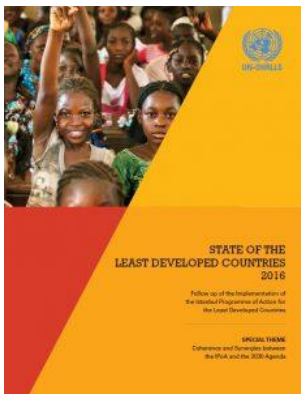
Report in English: https://www.ifad.org/pub/rdr_chapters/tags/30581920

French & Spanish versions will be available soon.

Economic growth is not enough to save those threatened daily with starvation. Governments need to tailor policies and investments to transform rural areas in developing countries if they want to eliminate poverty, according to a new global study released by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on 14 September 2016. The Rural Development Report 2016, IFAD's flagship publication, is a rallying call to policymakers and development practitioners to win the global war against poverty. It brings together leading thinkers to analyse the experiences of rural development in over 60 developing countries. This extensive research provides a solid foundation on which leaders and institutions can base their policy choices and investments.

State of Least Developed Countries 2016 (UN-OHRLLS)

<http://unohrlls.org/custom-content/uploads/2016/08/State-of-LDCs2016.pdf>



The world's 48 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) have experienced some positive developments, yet challenges remain with new risks and uncertainties threatening development gains, according to a report launched by UN-OHRLLS in New York on 13 September 2016. State of Least Developed Countries 2016, by the Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, highlights how progress towards graduation from the LDC category has accelerated with 10 LDCs currently in the graduation process. Despite this, challenges to the sustainable development of LDCs persist, with new and increasing risks and uncertainties threatening development gains, including volatile commodity prices, major natural disasters.

The report analyses coherence and synergies within the Sustainable Development Goals, stressing commonalities between the Istanbul Programme of Action for Least Developed countries (IPoA) and Agenda 2030 and calling for an integrated approach to collective implementation. State of the Least Developed Countries 2016 emphasises that the majority of the LDCs have not met most of the targets laid out in the IPoA despite an acceleration of effort over the past five years.

Third Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE III): The Impact of Adult Learning and Education on Health and Well-Being; Employment and the Labour Market; and Social, Civic and Community Life (UNESCO/UII)

<http://uil.unesco.org/system/files/grale-3.pdf>

Adult learning and education can improve health and well-being, employment opportunities and develop local communities, according to the third Global Report on Adult Learning and Education (GRALE III), produced by UNESCO's Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL).

The study, drawing on 139 countries' response to the GRALE III survey, shows that most States have made progress in ALE policy development, governance, financing, quality and reach since 2009. Furthermore, 124 countries consider that ALE has had a strong impact on health and well-being, active citizenship, social cohesion, diversity and tolerance. GRALE III also makes a case for the major contribution that ALE could bring to meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Human Rights

A Call for Accountability and Protection: Yezidi Survivors of Atrocities Committed by ISIL (UNAMI/OHCHR)

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMIREport12Aug2016_en.pdf

A new United Nations report - released on 18 August 2016 - lays bare the widespread and systematic manner in which the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, Da'esh) has committed "terrible atrocities" against the Yezidi and other ethnic and religious communities, the UN envoy for Iraq said today, calling for the perpetrators to be fully and properly held to account. Compiled by the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the report details heart-wrenching testimony of Yezidi survivors of ISIL atrocities in Iraq since the attack on Sinjar in August 2014, including accounts of systematic and widespread killings, sexual violence and sexual slavery, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, forced conversions and forced displacement, among other abuses of international human rights and humanitarian law. The report contains accounts of those who were among the 308,315 mostly Yezidis who fled Sinjar District. An estimated 360,000 Yezidi remain displaced, with a serious lack of badly needed psychological care.

Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic (A/HRC/33/55, 11 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/HRC/33/55>

Following an all-too-brief respite in fighting resulting from February's cessation of hostilities agreement, there has been a tragic increase in violence targeting Syrian civilians crushing hopes of peace in the war-torn country, a group of UN experts reported on 6 September 2016. In its latest report, the UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria notes how recent indiscriminate attacks on civilians, including on medical workers and facilities, blocked humanitarian convoys, enforced disappearances, summary executions, and other crimes committed by all parties to the conflict, have left Syrians in a state of despair.

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights (A/HRC/33/48, 3 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/HRC/33/48>

The United Nations expert on human rights and international sanctions, Idriss Jazairy, called on 9 September 2016 for the creation of compensation commissions under the auspices of the UN, to help those affected by unilateral sanctions bring their claims against States or international organizations. In his new report to the Human Rights Council, the expert noted that victims of international sanctions often face huge difficulties when trying to obtain remedies, compensation or redress for the human rights violations they have endured. "Few mechanisms exist that can grant effective remedies and damages to victims of sanctions, and their powers are often limited," Mr. Jazairy noted.

Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine: 16 May to 15 August 2016 (OHCHR)

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/Ukraine15thReport.pdf>

A new UN report released on 15 September 2016 describes the deterioration of the human rights situation in eastern Ukraine, as a result of escalating hostilities between June and August, and the continued disregard for the protection of civilians by both sides of the conflict. The report, which covers the period from mid-May to mid-August, shows a 66 per cent increase of the number of conflict-related civilian casualties in the east, compared to the previous reporting period. In total, the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine documented 188 civilian casualties in eastern Ukraine, including 28 dead and 160 injured, during the three months covered by the report.

By 15 September 2016, OHCHR recorded 9,640 conflict-related deaths and 22,431 injuries among Ukrainian armed forces, civilians and members of the armed groups since the conflict began in mid-April 2014.

Situation of human rights in Yemen (A/HRC/33/38, 4 August 2016)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/HRC/33/38>

Press release, video & infographics:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/MENARegion/Pages/YemenReport.aspx>

In a report mandated by the UN Human Rights Council released on 25 August 2016, the UN Human Rights Office has laid out a number of serious allegations of violations and abuses committed by all sides to the conflict in Yemen, highlighting in particular their impact on civilian lives, health and infrastructure. Between March 2015 and 23 August 2016, an estimated 3,799 civilians have been killed and 6,711 injured as result of the war in Yemen. At least 7.6 million people, including three million women and children are currently suffering from malnutrition and at least three million people have been forced to flee their homes.

Humanitarian Affairs

Beyond Detention: Progress Report mid-2016 (UNHCR)

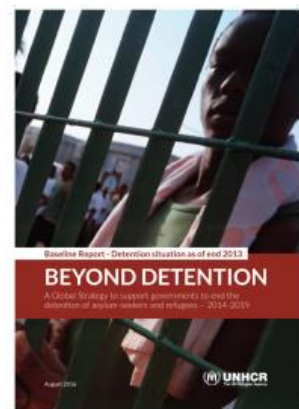
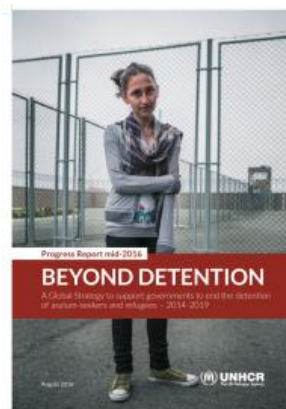
<https://un4.me/2b3fcMk>

Beyond Detention: Baseline Report - Detention situation as of end 2013 (UNHCR)

<https://un4.me/2bCguJW>

Two reports issued on 18 August 2016 show that 12 countries taking part in a UNHCR strategy to end detention of asylum seekers and refugees have made important progress towards ending detention of children over the past two years. But achievements were mixed in the two other targets of the UNHCR global strategy "Beyond Detention 2014-2019": ensuring alternatives to detention are available in law and implemented; and where detention is necessary and unavoidable, ensuring conditions in detention meet international standards. The strategy was

launched two years ago to assist governments to tackle this important issue. In partnership with states and civil society organizations, it has been rolled out in Canada, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States and Zambia. Data compiled from 2013 is used as a baseline, presented in one report alongside a progress report.



Missing Out: Refugee education in crisis (UNHCR)

<http://www.unhcr.org/57beb5144>

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, released a report on 15 September 2016 showing that more than half – 3.7 million – of the 6 million school-age children under its mandate have no school to go to. Some 1.75 million refugee children are not in primary school and 1.95 million refugee adolescents are not in secondary school, the report found. Refugees are five times more likely to be out of school than the global average.



Refugee Emergency Response in Europe Supplementary Appeal (January - December 2016) (UNHCR)

<https://un4.me/2bGxzpe>

Introduction: "Throughout 2015, increasing numbers of people risked their lives to cross the Mediterranean Sea in search of safety and protection in Europe. By early January 2016, more than 1 million refugees and migrants had crossed the Mediterranean, including more than 850,000 who arrived in Greece from Turkey. From January to July 2016 some 260,000 people had arrived in Southern Europe. The majority originate from countries affected by conflict, with 48 per cent of those who arrived in Greece originating from the Syrian Arab Republic (Syria), 25 per cent from Afghanistan, and 15 per cent from Iraq."

Uprooted: The growing crisis for refugee and migrant children (UNICEF)

Report in English, Executive Summary & Key Findings in English, French & Spanish:

http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_92710.html

Across the globe, nearly 50 million children have been uprooted – 28 million of them driven from their homes by conflicts not of their making, and millions more migrating in the hope of finding a better, safer life. Often traumatized by the conflicts and violence they are fleeing, they face further dangers along the way, including the risk of drowning on sea crossings, malnourishment and dehydration, trafficking, kidnapping, rape and even murder. In countries they travel through and at their destinations, they often face xenophobia and discrimination.



A new report released on 7 September 2016 by UNICEF presents new data that paint a sobering picture of the lives and situations of millions of children and families affected by violent conflict and other crises that make it seem safer to risk everything on a perilous journey than remain at home.

International Law

Treaty Event 2016

English: https://treaties.un.org/Pages/TreatyEvents.aspx?path=Treaty/Focus/Page1_en.xml

French: https://treaties.un.org/Pages/TreatyEvents.aspx?path=Treaty/Focus/Page1_fr.xml

The Treaty Event will focus on the theme of human mobility, to underline the commitment of the United Nations to the rights of refugees and migrants at a crucial time.

New information material

Single copies of the following titles can be ordered via e-mail: info@unric.org

Africa Renewal: "Africa democracy coming of age".

August-November 2016. 39 p.

Online version: <http://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/august-2016>

Brochure sur la Décennie internationale des personnes d'ascendance africaine.

Département de l'information des Nations Unies.

http://www.un.org/fr/events/africandescentdecade/pdf/booklet_decade.pdf

Folleto: Decenio Internacional para los Afrodescendientes

Departamento de Información Pública, Naciones Unidas.

POSTER: International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024.

United Nations Department of Public Information.

English: http://www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade/assets/img/logos/UN_AfricanDescent_posterEN.jpg

French: http://www.un.org/en/events/africandescentdecade/assets/img/logos/UN_AfricanDescent_posterFR.jpg

NEW TITLES

added to the library collection in August-September

II.D Trade, Finance and Commerce

Le développement économique en Afrique : Rapport 2016 ; Dynamique de la dette et financement du développement en Afrique.

Nations Unies. New York et Genève. 2016. viii, 174 p. (UNCTAD/ALDC/AFRICA/2016)

Sales No. F.16.II.D.3. ISBN 978-92-1-212412-4.

Online version: http://unctad.org/fr/PublicationsLibrary/aldcafrica2016_fr.pdf

XIV Human Rights (including Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights - OHCHR)

Human Rights and Traditional Justice Systems in Africa.

United Nations. New York and Geneva. 2016. iv, 79p. (HR/PUB/16/2)

Sales No. E.16.XIV.1. ISBN 978-92-1-154216-5.

Online version:

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR_PUB_16_2_HR_and_Traditional_Justice_Systems_in_Africa.pdf

Back issues of this newsletter are available at the UNRIC Info Point & Library website:

<http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-newsletter>