

July 2017

New UN websites & publications

UN in General

Repositioning the UN development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda – Ensuring a Better Future for All: Report of the Secretary-General (Advance Unedited Version – 30 June 2017)

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

UN News Centre Story:

- *English:* <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57123>
- *French:* <http://www.un.org/apps/newsFr/storyF.asp?NewsID=39781>
- *Spanish:* <http://www.un.org/spanish/News/story.asp?newsID=37637>

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017

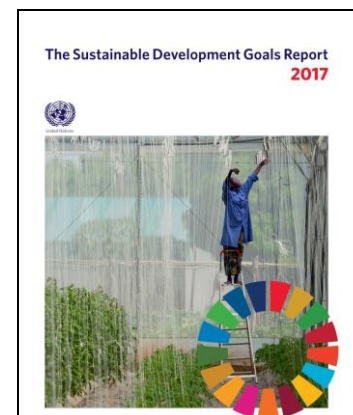
English: <https://un4.me/2t7ZRy4>

French: <https://un4.me/2uvsE2U>

Spanish: <https://un4.me/2u1kyN7>

German: <https://un4.me/2uONv1W>

If the world is to eradicate poverty, address climate change and build peaceful, inclusive societies for all by 2030, key stakeholders, including governments, must drive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at a faster rate, says the latest progress report on the SDGs launched by UN Secretary-General Antonio Gutierrez on 17 July 2017. Using the most recent data available, the annual Sustainable Development Goals Report provides an overview of the world's implementation efforts to date, highlighting areas of progress and areas where more action needs to be taken to ensure no one is left behind. This year's report finds that while progress has been made over the past decade across all areas of development, the pace of progress has been insufficient and advancements have been uneven to fully meet the implementation of the SDGs.



Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes

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

On 14 July 2017, Secretary-General António Gutierrez launched the first-ever action plan designed specifically to enable religious leaders to prevent incitement to violence — the Plan of Action for Religious Leaders and Actors to Prevent Incitement to Violence that Could Lead to Atrocity Crimes — in a meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Plan of Action was developed over two years of intensive global and regional consultations organized by the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, with the support of the International Dialogue Centre, the World Council of Churches and the Network

for Religious and Traditional Peacemakers. A total of 232 religious leaders and actors from 77 countries took part in the consultations. Participants included Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jews, Muslims and Sikhs from different groups and denominations, as well as representatives of various religious minorities, including the Baha'i, Candombe, Kaka, Yazidi and humanists. Women made up at least 30 per cent of participants in all meetings.

How to Donate to the United Nations System

English: <https://un4.me/2sW7wDe>

French: <https://un4.me/2tFvsYM>

Spanish: <https://un4.me/2t4hyO7>

Do you want to help refugees and migrants, support food delivery to countries in crisis, or help to protect the world's cultural heritage? You can do that by donating to the United Nations or its agencies that are dedicated to these causes. Find out how and where you can contribute by following the links on this page.

Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

Fast forward progress: leveraging tech to achieve the global goals (ITU)

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

Underscoring the importance of information and communication technologies (ICT) in today's world, the heads of over 20 United Nations agencies and offices have called for leveraging those technologies to "fast forward" implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In a new report, launched on 13 July 2017, the senior officials also highlighted the critical link between information and communication technologies and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026

<http://www.agri-outlook.org/>

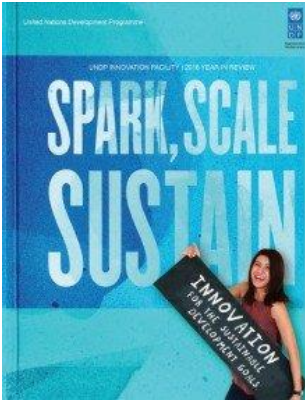
Global food commodity prices are projected to remain low over the next decade compared to previous peaks, as demand growth in a number of emerging economies is expected to slow down and biofuel policies have a diminished impact on markets, according to the latest 10-year agricultural outlook published on 10 July 2017 by the OECD and FAO. The OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2017-2026 says that the completed replenishment of cereal stocks by 230 million metric tonnes over the past decade, combined with abundant stocks of most other commodities, should also help limit growth in world prices, which are now almost back to their levels before the 2007-08 food price crisis.

Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 2017 (WHO/UNICEF)

http://who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/jmp-2017/en/

Some 3 in 10 people worldwide, or 2.1 billion, lack access to safe, readily available water at home, and 6 in 10, or 4.5 billion, lack safely managed sanitation, according to a new report by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF released on 12 July 2017. The Joint Monitoring Programme report presents the first global assessment of "safely managed" drinking water and sanitation services. The overriding conclusion is that too many people still lack access, particularly in rural areas.





Spark, Scale, Sustain: Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (UNDP)

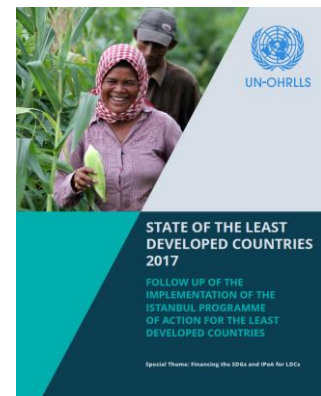
<https://un4.me/2tmcp49>

New York, 12 July– Innovation and emerging technologies increasingly change how international organizations invest in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, according to a new report launched today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Innovation Facility. At the launch of the report on 12 July 2017, the Innovation Facility shared examples of how emerging technologies and new approaches can help to make development more impactful, citing more than 40 case studies including examples from Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, China, Lebanon and Serbia.

State of the Least Developed Countries 2017: Follow Up of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries; Special Theme: Financing the SDGs and IPoA for LDCs (UN-OHRLLS)

<https://un4.me/2ub7yox>

The world's 47 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are facing significant challenges in implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) and the Sustainable Development Goals, according to the latest edition of the State of the Least Developed Countries report by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS). The fourth edition of the report – launched on 19 July 2017 in New York – focuses on the financing of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the LDCs.



Tourism for Sustainable Development in Least Developed Countries: Leveraging Resources for Sustainable Tourism with the Enhanced Integrated Framework

<http://www.e-unwto.org/doi/book/10.18111/9789284418848>

A United Nations-backed report released today stressed the need for greater recognition of tourism as a key service export in order to attract technical assistance to the sector in least developed countries (LDCs). Although tourism represents seven per cent of all international trade and 30 per cent of the world's services trade, it is often difficult to direct trade-related technical assistance towards the sector because tourism and trade tend to fall under different line ministries, the report points out. Produced by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), the report, titled Tourism for Sustainable Development in Least Developed Countries, was launched 13 July 2017 on the occasion of the Aid for Trade Review held in Geneva.

WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2017: Monitoring tobacco use and prevention policies

<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/255874/1/9789241512824-eng.pdf>

The latest WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic published on 19 July 2017 finds that more countries have implemented tobacco control policies, ranging from graphic pack warnings and advertising bans to no smoking areas. About 4.7 billion people – 63% of the world's population – are covered by at least one comprehensive tobacco control measure, which has quadrupled since 2007 when only 1 billion people and 15% of the world's population were covered. Strategies to implement such policies have saved millions of people from early death. However, the tobacco industry continues to hamper government efforts to fully implement life- and cost-saving interventions, according to the report.

World Economic and Social Survey 2017: Reflecting on 70 years of development policy analysis (DESA)

Report in English, Overview in English, French & Spanish: <https://wess.un.org/overview/>

Since 1947 the World Economic and Social Survey has promoted a broader understanding of development, emphasizing the importance of advancing the structural transformation of the economy, progress in social development and environmental sustainability. This year's edition shows that many parallels can be drawn between the challenges currently facing the international community and those that confronted the world in the past. These lessons from the past are relevant to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, the Survey highlights the importance of a stable global economy supported by coordinated global actions, well-functioning international trade and monetary systems, respect for national policy space, international solidarity and development planning.

International Peace and Security

Afghanistan: Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict - Midyear Report 2017 (UNAMA / OHCHR)

<https://un4.me/2uv89n1>

The numbers of civilians killed and injured in the conflict in Afghanistan in the first six months of 2017 persisted at the same record high levels as last year, according to a mid-year report from the United Nations. Extreme civilian harm continued amid a worsening toll of suicide attacks, and a greater impact on women and children. A total of 1,662 civilian deaths were confirmed between 1 January and 30 June – an increase of two per cent on the same period last year, according to figures from the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). The number of civilians injured in the same period fell one per cent to 3,581. The report highlights that 40 per cent of all civilian casualties during the six-month period were killed or injured by anti-government forces using improvised explosive devices (IEDs), such as suicide bombs and pressure-plate devices, and killed 596 civilians and injured 1,483. These figures include civilian casualties from suicide and complex attacks, (attacks including more than one perpetrator and two or more forms of weaponry, including suicide IEDs), which killed 259 civilians and injured 892, a 15 per cent increase on comparable figures for the first six months of 2016. Many of those casualties occurred in a single attack in Kabul city on 31 May, when truck bomb killed at least 92 civilians died and injured nearly 500, the deadliest incident documented by UNAMA since 2001.

An attack on one is an attack on all (UNESCO)

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0025/002504/250430E.pdf>

On 29 June 2017, UNESCO releasing this new publication, on the occasion of the Multi-Stakeholder Consultation meeting on Strengthening the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity taking place in Geneva. It looks at the innovative, successful ways in which media companies, individual journalists and civil society organizations are coming together to improve journalist safety and end impunity – and working successfully with governments in some cases. While states have primary responsibility to protect journalists and prosecute those who attack them, there is a lot that media and civil society can and are doing as well.



Concept note for the Security Council open debate on the protection of civilians and medical care in armed conflict

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/S/2017/365>

The Security Council held an open debate on 25 May 2017 on the topic "Protection of civilians and medical care in armed conflict". In order to help guide the debate, the Security Council President for May, Uruguay, has prepared this concept note.

Concept note for the Security Council open debate on peace and security in Africa: enhancing African capacities in the areas of peace and security

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/S/2017/574>

The Security Council held an open debate on 19 July 2017 on the topic "Peace and security in Africa: enhancing African capacities in the areas of peace and security". In order to help guide the debate, the Security Council President for July, China, has prepared this concept note.

Leaving no one behind: Mine action and the Sustainable Development Goals (UNDP)

<https://un4.me/2u1fUjY>

The joint GICHD-UNDP study explores the links between mine action and the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs. It seeks to reflect the current understanding of the contribution and impact that mine action is having on achieving the 2030 Agenda in countries affected by landmines, cluster munitions and other explosive remnants of war.

Three Years After the 2014 Gaza Hostilities - Beyond Survival: Challenges to Economic Recovery and Long-Term Development (UNDP)

<https://un4.me/2u1XDOR>

The report provides an analysis of the main challenges that are currently dominating Gaza's business environment, three years after the 2014 hostilities, and proposes a fresh approach to support Gaza's private sector to thrive, not just to survive. The report also highlights that Gaza's economy has been virtually stagnant for the past ten years, with average annual real GDP growth rate over the decade not exceeding 1.44%, while Gaza's population grew by 38.4% over the same period. According to the report, more GDP growth will be required in order to reduce Gaza's chronic unemployment, currently standing at 40.6%, and improve livelihoods.

United Nations activities in support of mediation: Report of the Secretary-General (A/72/115, 27 June 2017)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/72/115>

"Summary: In its resolution 70/304, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly at its seventy-second session on United Nations activities in support of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request. It recognizes mediation as an important tool for conflict prevention, management and resolution; analyses five elements of mediation support, providing examples of United Nations activities within the framework of each element; and sets out the means through which the entities of the United Nations system can coordinate their support for mediation initiatives at different levels."

Development of Africa

Africa Data Revolution Report (ADRR 2016)

<https://un4.me/2upui5y>

The inaugural edition of the Africa Data Revolution Report (ADRR 2016) was launched on 19 July in Accra, Ghana, as part of activities marking the 2nd Africa Open Data Conference, that took place from 17-21 July 2017. Jointly published by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Wide Web Foundation and the Open Data for Development Network (OD4D), ADRR is a biennial report that maps the data ecosystem in Africa with reference to the production, distribution and use of data by public, private and civil society actors, as they relate to the 17 SDGs.

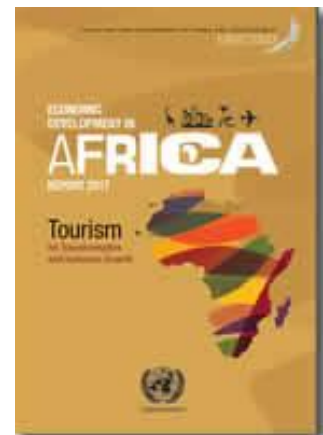
Economic Development in Africa Report 2017: Tourism for Transformative and Inclusive Growth (UNCTAD)

Report in English & French, Facts & Figures in English, French & Spanish:

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1778>

Four out of 10 international tourists in Africa come from the continent itself, according to the new UNCTAD Economic Development in Africa Report 2017. In sub-Saharan Africa, this number increases to two out of every three tourists whose travels originate on the continent. Data backing this key finding show that, contrary to perception, Africans themselves are increasingly driving tourism demand in Africa.

Tourism in Africa is a flourishing industry that supports more than 21 million jobs, or 1 in 14 jobs, on the continent. Over the last two decades, Africa has recorded robust growth, with international tourist arrivals and tourism revenues growing at 6 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively, each year between 1995 and 2014. Focusing on tourism for transformative and inclusive growth, this year's report encourages African countries to harness the dynamism of the tourism sector.



Human Rights

25 Keys to Unlock the Financial Chains of Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery (UNU)

http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6232/BreakingtheFinancialChains_FullBooklet_Web.pdf

The financial sector has a number of underutilised tools at its disposal to disrupt funds generated by human trafficking and modern slavery, claims a new report published on 11 July 2017 by the United Nations University (UNU), a United Nations think tank. The report draws on insights from a unique collaboration of representatives of the financial sector, financial regulators, investigators and prosecutors, civil society and UN entities. It identifies concrete measures to break the ties between the financial sector and modern slavery.

Humanitarian Affairs

CRRF Global Digital Portal

<http://crrf.unhcr.org/>

The CRRF Global Digital Portal is a web-based operational tool designed to enable all those involved in the response to access and share information on the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework in different countries.

In Search of Opportunities: Voices of children on the move in West and Central Africa (UNICEF)

<https://www.unicef.org/wcaro/nigeriaregionalcrisis/WCAR.Migration.July2017.LRe.pdf>

With more than seven million children in West and Central Africa uprooted from their homes each year due to violence, poverty and climate change, and projections that this number will continue to rise, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has called for greater efforts to ensure that migrant and displaced children are protected from exploitation and abuse. In its latest report, released on 5 July 2017, the UN agency noted that almost a third of that number remained in Sub-Saharan Africa and less than one in five headed to Europe.



Mixed Migration Trends in Libya: Changing Dynamics and Protection Challenges Evolution of the Journey and Situations of Refugees and Migrants in Southern Libya (UNHCR)

<http://www.unhcr.org/595a02b44>



A study of mixed refugee and migrant flows by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has found that around half of those travelling to Libya do so believing they can find jobs there, but end up fleeing onwards to Europe to escape life-threatening insecurity, instability, difficult economic conditions plus widespread exploitation and abuse. Foreign nationals going to Libya are part of mixed migration flows, meaning that people with different backgrounds and motivations travel together along the same routes, often with the help of ruthless people smugglers and criminal gangs. They include refugees, asylum seekers, economic migrants, unaccompanied minors, environmental migrants, victims of trafficking and stranded migrants, among others. In recent years, the number of people crossing by sea from North Africa to southern Europe has increased. The indications are that this trend is likely to continue. Of the three main routes used by refugees and migrants to reach Europe – the Western Mediterranean

route, the Central Mediterranean route and the Eastern Mediterranean route – Libya has become the most commonly used one, and also the deadliest.

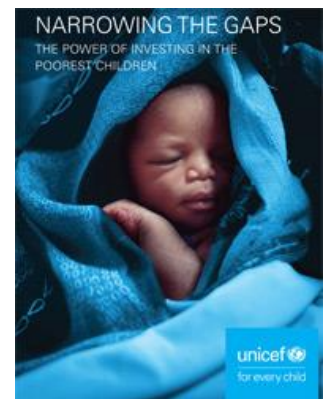
Narrowing the Gaps: The power of investing in the poorest children (UNICEF)

English, French & Spanish:

<http://data.unicef.org/narrowing-the-gaps/>

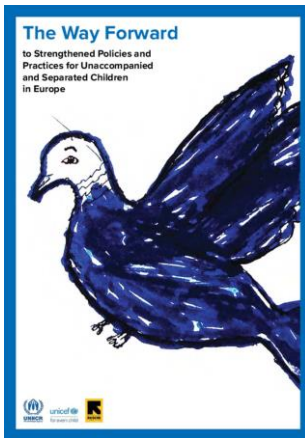
https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_96534.html

Investing in the health and survival of the most deprived children and communities provides more value for money, saving almost twice as many lives for every US\$1 million spent as equivalent investments in less deprived groups, according to a new UNICEF analysis. It presents compelling new evidence that backs up an unconventional prediction UNICEF made in 2010: the higher cost of reaching the poorest children with life-saving, high-impact health interventions would be outweighed by greater results.



The Way Forward to Strengthened Policies and Practices for Unaccompanied and Separated Children in Europe (UNHCR / UNICEF)

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



United Nations agencies today issued a set of recommendations for action to improve the situation of refugee and migrant children arriving and staying in Europe without their parents or caregivers. The *Way Forward*, put together by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and their partner, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), highlights the need to identify children, register them through child-friendly procedures, and build a relationship of trust with them as early as possible. The document provides recommendations developed in a broad consultative process led by the three organizations, with input from 100 practitioners, including guardians, psychologists, social workers and lawyers, as well as relevant authorities from several European states and the European Union, and refugee and migrant children across the continent.

World Food Assistance 2017 (WFP)

Full report, Key findings and recommendations, Summary:

<https://www.wfp.org/content/2017-world-food-assistance-taking-stock-and-looking-ahead>

The report considers the measures pursued by national, regional and international actors to respond to, prepare for and prevent food crises. In 2017 alone such crises have made 108 million people worldwide severely food-insecure. The aim is to build understanding about: i) the scale, reach and composition of these "food assistance" measures over time and space; ii) current and emerging challenges and opportunities facing food assistance providers and participants; and iii) options for policy-making and investment to boost the relevance and impact of food assistance under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Justice and International Law

First report on succession of States in respect of State responsibility / by Pavel Struma, Special Rapporteur (A/CN.4/708, 31 May 2017)

English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/CN.4/708>

"During its sixty-ninth session, in May 2017, the Commission decided to place the topic "Succession of States in respect of State responsibility" on its current programme of work and appointed Mr. Pavel Struma as Special Rapporteur. The Special Rapporteur prepared the present preliminary report as his first report, examining in particular the scope and tentative programme of work, as a basis for an initial debate later in the sixty-ninth session.

Nuclear, Chemical and Conventional Weapons Disarmament

Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

Countries meeting at a United Nations conference in New York adopted on 7 July 2017 the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, the first multilateral legally-binding instrument for nuclear disarmament to have been negotiated in 20 years.

- Document A/CONF.229/2017/8
English, French & Spanish: <http://undocs.org/A/CONF.229/2017/8>
German: <http://www.un.org/Depts/german/conf/a-conf-229-17-8.pdf>
- UN News Centre Story
English: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57139>
French: <http://www.un.org/apps/newsFr/storyF.asp?NewsID=39795>
Spanish: <http://www.un.org/spanish/News/story.asp?NewsID=37658>
- Press Release
English: <http://www.un.org/press/en/2017/dc3723.doc.htm>
French: <http://www.un.org/press/fr/2017/cd3723.doc.htm>

New information material

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

Afrique Renouveau, mai - juillet 2017 : « Vie sous-marine ». 39 p.

Online version : <http://www.un.org/africarenewal/fr/magazine/july-2017>

Back issues of this newsletter are available at the UNRIC Info Point & Library website:
<http://www.unric.org/en/unric-library-newsletter>