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Update for the United Nations Development Programme

Committee Overview

Recent Developments

On 2 November 2016, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) published the 2016 progress report *Making Development Co-operation More Effective*.[1] This report collected and disseminated development data from 81 low- and middle-income countries to assess the effectiveness of development strategies and policies, particularly in the context of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015).[2] The report focused on outcomes of existing strategies, country development priorities, development partnerships, and mutual transparency and accountability.[3] It found that 99% of countries surveyed have designed national and regional development strategies.[4] Furthermore, transparency and public-private partnerships have increased as greater emphasis has been placed on developing mutually beneficial strategies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[5]

In cooperation with the World Bank Group, UNDP released a system-wide report on 10 November 2016 on *Transitioning from the MDGs to the SDGs* that examined how best to integrate actions and promote sustainable development and the elimination of poverty to achieve the SDGs.[6] The report warns against creating 17 new "silos" for the goals and instead concluded that addressing integration at the country level is critical by encouraging collaboration that "delivers as one" to accomplish cross-sector SDGs.[7] Helen Clark, administrator of UNDP and chair of the United Nations Development Group, attended the Second High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation from 28 November through 1 December 2016, which produced the *Nairobi Outcome Document*.[8] The outcome document emphasized the importance of mutual accountability and monitoring to ensure that development partnerships are effective and localized.[9]

UNDP also focused on "zero-carbon, climate resilient, sustainable development" at the 22nd Conference of the Parties to the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (COP 22) in Marrakech, Morocco, in November 2016.[10] On 16 November 2016, UNDP released its second major report on climate change, *UNDP and Climate Change: Scaling up climate action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*.[11] The report emphasizes that development is only sustainable when combined with strong climate action.[12] The report notes that UNDP's experience and global presence have resulted in more than $2.8 billion in grants being awarded for climate change initiatives since 2008.[13] Currently there are 800 active projects in 144 countries that directly contribute to the 17 SDGs and simultaneously take action on climate change.[14]

The Executive Board of UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) elected a new bureau on 16 January 2017.[15] During its first regular session of 2017, the Executive Board evaluated its anti-corruption programs, drawing upon the work accomplished during the 2008-2013 Strategic Plan as well as the 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.[16] UNDP anti-corruption programs were found to be

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[1] OECD & UNDP, *Making Development Co-operation More Effective: 2016 Progress Report*, 2016.
[2] Ibid.
[3] Ibid.
[4] Ibid.
[5] Ibid.
[6] UNDP, *New Report 'Transitioning from the MDGs to the SDGs' calls for collaboration to 'Deliver as One'*, 2016.
[7] UNDP & World Bank Group, *Transitioning from the MDGs to the SDGs,* 2016, p. 26.
[8] UNDP, *UNDP Administrator Helen Clark, global leaders convene on partnerships needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2016.
[9] Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation, *Nairobi Outcome Document*, 2016.
[10] UNDP, *UNDP at COP22*, 2016.
[11] UNDP, *New UN report highlights the impact of climate action in advancing Sustainable Development Goals*, 2016.
[12] UNDP, *UNDP and Climate Change: Scaling Up Climate Action to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2016, p. 7.
[13] Ibid., p. 9.
[14] Ibid., pp. 16-17.
[15] Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, *Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan: Note by the Executive Board Secretariat (DP/2017/L.1)*, 2016, p. 2; UNDP, *Members of the Executive Board*, 2017.
[16] Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, *Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan: Note by the Executive Board Secretariat (DP/2017/L.1)*, 2016, p. 3.

successful but limited by the strength of the particular government structure and capacity, particularly with respect to independent judiciaries.[17] The UNDP Independent Evaluation Office reported on UNDP's effectiveness in integrating people with disabilities into development plans and within UNDP itself between 2008-2016.[18] This report evaluated and provided next steps for UNDP to continue to ensure the rights of people with disabilities.[19]

The first regular session of UNDP in 2017 took place from 30 January to 3 February 2017.[20] Delegates approved an extension of UNDP's country program in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea through December 2017 and launched new capacity-building programs in Botswana, Chad, and Haiti.[21] Delegates reviewed anti-corruption measures and drivers of corruption, with particular emphasis on transparency in decision making processes, assessment, and accountability strategies for sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda.[22] The meeting concluded by assessing disability inclusive development and evaluating pilot activities undertaken through the direct budget support policy.[23] The first regular session also approved the *Annual workplan of the Executive Board for 2017*.[24] The 2017 workplan highlights the central work of the 30 May to 9 June 2017 annual session in drafting the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan.[25] The annual session will also launch a report on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy in 2016, looking towards increased equality and continued gender mainstreaming in development.[26]

Annotated Bibliography

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services. (2016). *Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan: Note by the Executive Board Secretariat (DP/2017/L.1)*. Retrieved 5 January 2017 from: http://undocs.org/DP/2017/L.1
> *This is a provisional workplan for the Executive Board as well as UNDP for 2017. The document lays out the tentative agenda for the year for UNDP and highlights the central drafting of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021. Delegates gain insight into upcoming work of UNDP in this document and can use the document to continue further research on UNDP meetings and programs for 2017.*

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development & United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *Making Development Co-operation More Effective: 2016 Progress Report*. Retrieved 7 January 2017 from: http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264266261-en
> *This is a progress report on the state of development cooperation within countries and in the international community as it pertains to the 2030 Agenda. The document examines the results and lessons learned through monitoring partnerships and the ways that partnerships could be more effectively and transparently managed. Delegates gain new insights in this guide on global partnerships for the goals which impact every topic under discussion in UNDP.*

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *UNDP and Climate Change: Scaling Up Climate Action to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals* [Report]. Retrieved 27 January 2017 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/climate-and-disaster-resilience-/scaling-up-climate-action-to-achieve-the-sdgs.html
> *This report links sustainable development with climate change action and examines the progress UNDP has made on climate change while pursuing development goals. This high-level overview*

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[17] Ibid.
[18] Ibid., p. 3.
[19] Ibid.
[20] UNDP, *First regular session 2017*, 2017.
[21] Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, *Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan: Note by the Executive Board Secretariat (DP/2017/L.1)*, 2016; UNDP, *First regular session 2017*, 2017.
[22] Ibid.
[23] Ibid.
[24] Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, *Provisional agenda, annotations, list of documents and workplan: Note by the Executive Board Secretariat (DP/2017/L.1)*, 2016.
[25] Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, *Annual workplan 2017 of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS (DP/2017/CRP.1)*, 2016, p. 3.
[26] Ibid.

succinctly summarizes the funding, actions, and results of more than 800 development projects in place by UNDP. Delegates will be able to see rich contextual data on climate action and development broken down by action, region, and impact, giving delegates rich context on the ongoing actions of UNDP for sustainable development that is climate-conscious.

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I. Harnessing Data for Sustainable Development

Recent Developments

In December 2016, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in partnership with United Nations (UN) Global Pulse, released a wide-ranging guide concerning the integration of new sources of data with humanitarian work and development.[27] The guide provides Member States with detailed directions for leveraging new sources of data such as cellular data, social media data, remote sensors, and satellites.[28] The guide "builds on successful case trials" from different regions and the "expertise of data innovators" for starting a data innovation project.[29] UNDP also released a document concerning least developed countries (LDCs) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[30] Emphasizing the international community's pledge "that no one will be left behind" in the post-2015 development agenda, the report stresses the importance of long-term resilience through a selection of case studies in Kosovo, Tunisia, Sudan, Armenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Egypt.[31] The report uses data to help understand multi-dimensional poverty and paints a picture of those living in poverty that are left behind and what is needed to reach them.[32] The Multidimensional Poverty Index is a tool used by researchers to measure the various dimensions of vulnerability and the intensity of deprivations people face.[33] In addition, the report notes the significance of using data to guide decision-making, such as in the case of measuring poverty where policymakers can establish more effective and targeted pro-poor interventions.[34]

Also in December 2016, UN Global Pulse published a report entitled *Integrating Big Data into the Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Programmes*.[35] The report aims at motivating development agencies and evaluators to work together with data analysts in the assessment and application of new information sources, approaches, and technologies.[36] Currently, the application of big data in international development does not focus directly on monitoring or evaluation; rather, the emphasis is on researching, planning, and operational use of big data.[37] A focus on monitoring and evaluation will help keep the international community informed when not enough progress is being made on a particular SDG and how to effectively divide resources to ensure achieving the SDGs.[38] By focusing on progress and outcomes, monitoring and evaluation can also help lead to more effective public policies and improvements to a population's quality of life.[39]

From 15-18 January 2017, over 1,000 data experts from governments, businesses, the scientific community, and civil society participated in the first UN World Data Forum in Cape Town, South Africa.[40] The UN World Data Forum provided data producers and users with the opportunity to work together and "launch new initiatives and innovative solutions" to deliver more effective data on health, education, income, environmental indicators, and other facets of sustainable development.[41] According to UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Wu Hongbo, the first UN World Data Forum generated "fruitful collaboration" and "cutting-edge practical solutions to current challenges."[42] The Forum featured various points of discussion, including how civil society groups utilize data in their dialogue with governments about citizen experiences and priorities and how this contributes to accountability and policymaking.[43] The Forum concluded with the launch of the Cape Town Global

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[27] UN Global Pulse, *UNDP and UN Global Pulse Release Practical Guide to Designing Data Innovation Projects*, 2016.
[28] Ibid.
[29] UNDP, *A Guide to Data Innovation for Development – from idea to proof-of-concept*, 2016.
[30] UNDP, *Getting to the Last Mile in Least Developed Countries*, 2016.
[31] Ibid.
[32] Ibid., pp. 10-11.
[33] Ibid., p. 10.
[34] Ibid., p. 11.
[35] UN Global Pulse, *Integrating Big Data into the Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Programmes*, 2016.
[36] Ibid., p. 19.
[37] Ibid.
[38] SDG Fund, *Monitoring and evaluation*.
[39] Ibid.
[40] UN World Data Forum, *UN World Data Forum gearing up for January kick-off in Cape Town; Over 100 sessions to future innovative data solutions to improve lives*, 2016.
[41] Ibid.
[42] Ibid.
[43] Ibid.

Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data, which emphasizes the need for collaboration "to fully address the needs of the 2030 Agenda and for the application of new technologies and new data sources into mainstream statistical activities."[44] The second World Data Forum will be held in Dubai in late 2018 or early 2019.[45]

The UN Global Pulse Lab in Jakarta, Indonesia, hosted a research workshop in December 2016 concerning the data revolution for sustainable development in Indonesia.[46] The workshop facilitated discussions between stakeholders to develop a big data research agenda for humanitarian and development issues in Indonesia in 2017.[47] The workshop featured a panel discussion on new types of data for the SDGs, which emphasized the importance of shifting paradigms in statistical analysis and highlighted the process for developing proper SDG indicators and data in Indonesia.[48]

In addition, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Committee on Statistics met from 14-16 December in Bangkok, Thailand.[49] The meeting featured statements from Member States on transforming statistical systems with respect to the SDGs and achieving them through existing regional initiatives, including "economic statistics, population and social statistics, civil registration and vital statistics, disaster-related statistics, [and] agricultural and rural statistics."[50] Member States also considered partner coordination, stakeholder responsibilities, and the draft *Collective Vision and Framework for Action* from the Asia-Pacific Conference in August 2016.[51] During the meeting, a side event concerning violence against women in Asia and the Pacific Region was held.[52] The side event, organized by ESCAP, emphasized that data is significant when it comes to violence against women given its role in increasing awareness of the causes and consequences and the support it provides to effective policies, programming, monitoring and evaluation of prevention, and response efforts.[53] It also highlighted challenges and gaps, including the lack of data from many countries and the limited national and regional capacities for data collection, interpretation, and use.[54] Going forward, UNDP will continue collaboration with other UN entities, regional offices, and non-governmental organizations to ensure the effective harnessing of data for the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015).[55]

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> This UNDP publication focuses on LDCs and ensuring the 2030 Agenda call for leaving no one behind is fulfilled by the international community. The report highlights the way forward in ensuring this target is met, and particularly notes the importance of using data to guide decision-making in areas such as poverty. Delegates are encouraged to refer to this report to understand the UNDP's focus for the way forward.

United Nations, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. (2016). *Committee on Statistics: Fifth Session* [Website]. Retrieved 3 January 2017 from: http://www.unescap.org/events/committee-statistics-fifth-session
> The fifth session of the Committee on Statistics for the Asian-Pacific region was held in December. This website provides delegates with the opportunity to navigate through the documents from the meeting, different Member State statements for various agenda items, and background documents

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[44] UN DPI, *UN forum wraps up in South Africa with a call for better data to improve people's lives*, 2017.
[45] Ibid.
[46] Alkarisya & Pramestri, Building a Big Data Research Agenda in Indonesia for 2017, *United Nations Global Pulse*, 2016.
[47] Ibid.
[48] Ibid.
[49] UN ESCAP, *Committee on Statistics: Fifth Session*, 2016.
[50] Ibid.; UN ESCAP, *Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community: Note by the secretariat (E/ESCAP/CST(5)/1)*, 2016.
[51] UN ESCAP, *Committee on Statistics: Fifth Session*, 2016.
[52] UN ESCAP, *Gender Data and Statistics "Making Every Woman and Girl Count"*, 2016.
[53] Ibid.
[54] Ibid.
[55] UNDP, *Sustainable Development Goals: Resources*, 2017.

related to the meeting. Here, delegates can get an idea of Member State positions for using data for utilizing the 2030 Agenda as well as regional initiatives.

United Nations, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. (2016). *Gender Data and Statistics "Making Every Woman and Girl Count"* [Website]. Retrieved 4 January 2017 from: http://www.unescap.org/events/gender-data-and-statistics-%E2%80%9Cmaking-every-woman-and-girl-count%E2%80%9D

> *This website features two presentations delivered at a side event of the Committee on Statistics, Fifth Session. The Violence against women in Asia and the Pacific Region presentation provides delegates with useful information about why data concerning violence against women is important and the challenges and gaps currently present in the data. This source will help delegates understand the importance of data collection for development purposes in a regional perspective for Asia and the Pacific.*

United Nations Global Pulse. (2016). *Integrating Big Data into the Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Programmes* [Report]. Retrieved 2 January 2017 from: http://www.slideshare.net/unglobalpulse/integrating-big-data-into-the-monitoring-and-evaluation-of-development-programmes

> *This publication from the UN Global Pulse highlights strengths and challenges of monitoring and evaluation in an increasingly digital international development environment. The report is a call for action for development agencies and evaluators to work together with data analysts and scientists. This is a useful source for delegates to see what the future international development environment will look like with collaboration.*

United Nations World Data Forum. (2017). *UN World Data Forum* [Website]. Retrieved 25 January 2017 from: http://undataforum.org/

> *The UN World Data Forum in January provided data experts, international organizations, and civil society with the opportunity to work together on crosscutting issues and challenges in the development and statistics/data communities. Issues and approaches discussed include a new perspective on harnessing data for sustainable development, facilitating data sharing and collaboration across sectors, and ensuring protection of human rights. Delegates should navigate this source to get a good grasp of emerging and important issues that were discussed in the context of harnessing data for sustainable development.*

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II. The Role of the Private Sector in Promoting Sustainable Development

Recent Developments

On 21 November 2016, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partnered with the United Nations (UN) Office for South-South Cooperation to create the South-South Cooperation Global Thinkers.[56] This initiative strengthens the capacity of think tanks to research, advocate, and discuss policy implementation on South-South Cooperation (SSC) for the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.[57] Furthermore, the program creates a backdrop for participation from the private sector, triangular cooperation partners, and governments.[58] In the same way, UNDP, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation collaborated on the publication of a report entitled *Making Development Co-operation More Effective*.[59] As a result of the voluntary participation of 81 Member States, the report details the progress on implementing development effectiveness principles.[60] It highlights that almost 90% of governments utilized civil society consultants for national policy development and that around 70% of governments implemented a common public-private agenda for sustainable development in 2016.[61]

In early December 2016, UNDP and PUM Netherlands, an organization that promotes entrepreneurship and employment relief programs for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that aims to support and build capacity for SMEs in developing countries such as Haiti, Ukraine, Bangladesh, and many others.[62] This partnership also promotes and sustains youth engagement and development by cooperating with national specialized programs such as the Sierra Leone Youth Programme.[63] After supporting the Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Promoting Peaceful, Just, and Inclusive Societies at the 71st session of the General Assembly, UNDP and Transparency International signed a MoU at the 17th International Anti-Corruption Conference.[64] The MoU acknowledges the complementary relationship between poverty reduction and corruption and involves the private sector, youth and women, and civil society to monitor and implement Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 and its interlinkages.[65] However, fighting corruption requires a shared commitment from all stakeholders, especially from the private sector and multinational enterprises.[66] As widespread tax avoidance by multinational companies represents an important deprivation of revenues for governments, the OECD-UNDP project Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) aims to transform tax evasion in contributions towards financing the SDGs.[67] With 13 projects and eight pilot projects underway worldwide, TIWB collected over $260 million in additional tax revenues and generated more than $100 million in new tax revenues since 2015.[68] By 2020, TIWB aims to set up more than 100 programs worldwide as well as the first SSC initiative that will locally deploy TIWB trained tax experts in neighboring regions and countries.[69] For example, in 2017, Kenyan auditors will be deployed in Botswana.[70]

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[56] UNDP, *Special Event of the South-South Cooperation Global Thinkers Initiative*, 2017.
[57] Ibid.
[58] Ibid.
[59] UNDP et al., *Making Development Cooperation More Effective 2016 Progress Report*, p. 3.
[60] Ibid., p. 13.
[61] Ibid., pp. 14-15.
[62] UNDP, *Magdy Martínez-Solimán: Remarks at the MoU signing between UNDP and Netherlands senior experts (PUM)*, 2016; UNDP, *UN Development Programme and PUM Netherlands senior experts collaborate to support entrepreneurship and promote small and medium enterprises*, 2016.
[63] UNDP, *Magdy Martínez-Solimán: Remarks at the MoU signing between UNDP and Netherlands senior experts (PUM)*, 2016.
[64] UNDP, *Magdy Martínez-Solimán: Statement delivered at the MoU signing between UNDP and Transparency International, 17th International Anticorruption Conference*, 2016.
[65] UNDP, *UN Development Programme and Transparency International sign MoU to promote anti-corruption as a major development issue*, 2016.
[66] UNDP, *Magdy Martínez-Solimán: Statement delivered at the MoU signing between UNDP and Transparency International, 17th International Anticorruption Conference*, 2016.
[67] UNDP, *'Tax Inspectors Without Borders' makes significant progress in bolstering domestic revenue collection*, 2016.
[68] Ibid.
[69] Ibid.
[70] Ibid.

In partnership with various non-governmental organizations, public agencies and the Istanbul International Center for Private-Sector Development (IICPSD), UNDP adopted an economic strategy that aims to increase livelihoods and fight poverty in members of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.[71] At the World Humanitarian Summit held 23-24 May 2016 in Istanbul, UNDP-IICPSD collaboration advocated for more efficient public-private partnership (PPP) by ensuring discussion panels on SDGs and the private sector's role.[72] Local PPP efforts, such as the Community Works Programme that promotes sustainable development by targeting local development issues, have also been undertaken.[73] Over 10,000 people from 42 Macedonian municipalities benefited from services provided by this program that tackles poverty and unemployment.[74] Another example is UNDP's Get Airports Ready for Disasters (GARD) program that has trained more than 600 airport officials and staff members in 18 different countries since its implementation the initiative has been extended until 2019.[75] New countries such as Armenia, Lebanon, Turkey, and many others implemented the GARD program in the same month, and negotiations are currently underway with the Indian government to implement a national program targeting 20 additional airports for development projects that will spur increased economic opportunity in local regions.[76] Going forward, as reminded in UNDP's report on biodiversity, the private sector's role should not only be utilized for funding or philanthropic means, but also as a "trigger for development" and the promotion of sustainable economies.[77]

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> *This report summarizes field-based interventions that implemented SCC for education and skills development in Africa, Brazil and India. It also showcases local approaches towards implementing SDGs in education and skills development PPP. Delegates should use this resource as a reference for understanding the gaps and the challenges that need to be considered while addressing SSC.*

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *BIOFIN Workbook: Mobilizing Resources for Biodiversity and Sustainable Developmen*t [Report]. Retrieved 2 January 2017 from:
http://www.biodiversityfinance.net/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/undp-biofin-web.pdf
> *This report is essential for comprehending sustainable development interlinkages through biodiversity lenses. It discusses the steps necessary for achieving sustainable development through a biodiversity sensitive approach. Delegates can refer to this source to understand how financing and the private sector play a key role in achieving the goals that have been set on this issue and how it can utterly reflect on other fields of action.*

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *Community Works Programme: Building Communities, Changing Lives* [Report]. Retrieved 3 January 2017 from:
http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/dam/rbec/docs/Macedonia_OKR%20BROSHURA%2028%20strani%20(za%20na%20web%20angliska%20verzija%20FINAL%20))%20.pdf
> *The Community Works Programme report on activities in Macedonia is a great example of a successful PPP that delegates can follow as a reference guide for the resolution writing process. It shows how multiple social and economic benefits can be achieved from a single solution. Through its promotion of various local initiatives, delegates can use this resource as an example to be followed towards community building.*

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[71] UNDP, *Magdy Martínez-Solimán: Statement at the 5th Executive Council meeting of the Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development (IICPSD)*, 2016.
[72] Ibid.
[73] UNDP, *Community Works Programme: Building Communities, Changing Lives*, 2016, pp. 22-23.
[74] Ibid.
[75] UNDP, *Partnership to help airports respond to natural disasters expanded*, 2016.
[76] Ibid.
[77] UNDP, *BIOFIN Workbook: Mobilizing Resources for Biodiversity and Sustainable Development*, pp. 40-41.

United Nations Development Programme & World Bank Group. (2016). *Transitioning from the MDGs to the SDGs* [Report]. Retrieved 2 January 2017 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/sustainable-development-goals/transitioning-from-the-mdgs-to-the-sdgs.html

> *This report displays the private sector's engagement to the achievement of the MDGs and SDGs. It is a key resource for delegates to identify previously implemented strategies and to understand the reasons why they were successful or unsuccessful. It is a concrete guide for establishing new and innovative strategies to be implemented by delegates during the conference as it explains the lessons learned from country experiences.*

United Nations Development Programme et al. (2016). *Making Development Cooperation More Effective 2016 Progress Report*. Retrieved 3 January 2017 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/development-impact/making-development-co-operation-more-effective--2016-progress-re.html

> *This report highlights various approaches that can be undertaken to achieve progress and strengthen development within the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda. It is essential for understanding how to achieve efficient and sustainable development through cooperation between multi-stakeholders and PPP. It is also useful for delegates as it shows the interlinkages of development and the financing difficulties encountered in development processes.*

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III. Gender Mainstreaming in Early Recovery Situations

Recent Developments

In the second half of 2016, the international community continued to address gender mainstreaming in post-conflict and early recovery situations.[78] The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has continued leading and participating in initiatives with other United Nations (UN) agencies, Member States, and civil society in the implementation of a gender-inclusive approach to early recovery situations.[79] In September 2016, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon submitted a report to the Security Council concerning women, peace, and security.[80] The report highlights the Colombia peace process, in which women comprised more than 60% of participants at every step of the peace negotiations; the Secretary-General applauded the Colombia peace process for ensuring that the agreement was gender-inclusive and enduring.[81]

During the 71st session of the General Assembly Third Committee, delegates emphasized the need to ensure respect for women's rights as well as their equal participation in government, civil society, and private enterprise.[82] Representatives from various Member States stressed the need to implement concrete actions such as gender-sensitive approaches to disaster risk reduction and data-tracking projects.[83] Moreover, delegates noted that the participation of women in early recovery processes after humanitarian crises increases the chances of a more inclusive and lasting agreement.[84] In its 7793rd meeting, the Secretary-General advised the Security Council to take into consideration the opinion of civil society and women's groups concerning a gender-inclusive approach to conflict prevention and early recovery processes.[85] Furthermore, the Secretary-General also made remarks pertaining to the progress of implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2242 (2015) on women, peace, and security.[86] Although no concrete decisions were made, Member States agreed to take action concerning this topic.[87]

During a side event of the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security, the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) partnered with the UN Volunteers (UNV) program and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) to host a volunteer forum on gender-responsive peacebuilding.[88] Participants addressed many topics, such as the need for the proper resource allocation at all levels and strategies for increasing women's participation in both planning and training.[89]

In November 2016, UNDP published a report called *Gender Equality in National Climate Action: Planning for Gender-Responsive Nationally Determined Contribution.*[90] Encouraged by the *Paris Agreement* (2015), this report focused on the impact that gender has on climate policies at the national level and the importance of gender mainstreaming in the organization and execution of Nationally Determined Contributions.[91] The report highlights several initiatives and efforts by Member States to promote women's leadership in climate change-related activities, such as the Climate Change and Gender Action Plan of Nepal.[92] In the same context, UN-Women produced a report

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[78] UN DPI, *Speakers Urge Stronger Actions to Prevent Femicide, End to Gender-based Violence, as Third Committee Considers Women's Advancement (GA/SHC/4166)*, 2016.
[79] Secretariat of the Global Cluster for Early Recovery, *Implementing Early Recovery*, 2015.
[80] UN Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security (S/2016/822)*, 2016.
[81] Ibid., p. 3.
[82] UN DPI, *Speakers Urge Stronger Actions to Prevent Femicide, End to Gender-based Violence, as Third Committee Considers Women's Advancement (GA/SHC/4166)*, 2016.
[83] Ibid.
[84] Ibid.
[85] UN DPI, *Women Too Often Omitted from Peace Processes, Despite Key Role in Preventing Conflict, Forging Peace, Secretary-General Tells Security Council (SC/12561)*, 2016.
[86] Ibid.
[87] Ibid.
[88] UN-Women, *UN Volunteers supporting gender-responsive peacebuilding on the ground*, 2016.
[89] Ibid.
[90] UNDP, *Gender Equality in National Climate Action: Planning for Gender-Responsive Nationally Determined Contributions*, 2016.
[91] Ibid.
[92] UN-Women, *Time to Act on Gender, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2016.

entitled *Time to Act: on Gender, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction*.[93] This report examines the status of women in some Member States from the Pacific region and their essential roles as agents, leaders, and advocates in programs related to climate change and disaster risk reduction.[94] In December 2016, UN-Women published a research report titled *Gender Dimensions of Vulnerability to Climate Change in China*.[95] The report concluded that lack of access to information, training, and leadership roles renders women and girls more susceptible to the results of climate change.[96] The report encourages mainstreaming gender in policies related to climate change and disaster risk reduction, enhancing women's participation in training programs, and enhancing the implementation of gender-sensitive policies.[97]

As part of a multi-stakeholder partnership between UN-Women, the Permanent Representative of Germany, and the Permanent Observer of the African Union, the Women's Leadership Initiative for Stability in Africa was created in December 2016.[98] Beginning in 2017 and lasting two years, this initiative will mobilize resources and develop programs and policies to enhance African women's role in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and early recovery.[99] This initiative aims to increase of women's participation and leadership in civil society, government, and the private sector in both conflict and post-conflict regions in Africa.[100] In March 2017, the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) will debate the topic in the context of lessons learned during the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) since the Fourth World Conference on Women in 2000.[101]

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> *This is the provisional agenda for CSW's 61st session, to be convened in March 2017. It reviews the context of the topics that will be discussed during the session about women's economic empowerment as well as a review of the adversities and achievements women face in the achievement of the MDGs in all parts of their social life. This document will allow delegates to understand some of the current measures being promoted by the UN when it comes to women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming in decision-making processes.*

United Nations, Department of Public Information. (2016, October 10). *Speakers Urge Stronger Actions to Prevent Femicide, End to Gender-based Violence, as Third Committee Considers Women's Advancement (GA/SHC/4166)* [Meetings Coverage]. Retrieved 4 January 2017 from: https://www.un.org/press/en/2016/gashc4166.doc.htm
> *The meetings coverage outlines the comments of delegates concerning the topic of femicide, gender mainstreaming, and the importance of equal participation in post-conflict and peacebuilding processes. Representatives of Member States were joined by UN experts, civil society leaders, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. Speakers paid special attention to the unique threats that women and girls face under forced displacement during humanitarian rises.*

United Nations Development Programme. (2016). *Gender Equality in National Climate Action: Planning for Gender-Responsive Nationally Determined Contributions* [Report]. Retrieved 4 January 2017 from: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/gender/Gender%20and%20Environment/Gender_Equality_in_National_Climate_Action.pdf?download
> *This report analyzes the presence of gender equality in national climate action policies. The authors also examine the advancements and potential challenges to implementing gender-inclusive approaches to climate change mitigation in the 2030 Agenda. This report provides*

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[93] Ibid.
[94] Ibid.
[95] UN-Women, *Research from China reveals women more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change*, 2016.
[96] Ibid.
[97] UN CSW, *Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work (E/CN.6/2017/1)*, 2016.
[98] UN-Women, *Launch of Women's leadership initiative for peace and stability in Africa*, 2016.
[99] Ibid.
[100] UN-Women, *Research from China reveals women more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change*, 2016.
[101] UN CSW, *Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work (E/CN.6/2017/1)*, 2016.

detailed information concerning the role that women can play in the planning, formulation, and execution of policies and actions regarding disaster risk reduction.

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> *This platform was created to support organizations that promote and empower African women. By providing funds, it seeks to enhance women's involvement and capacitation in the prevention, solution and recovery of conflict situations in local, regional and international scales. This article provides useful information concerning the importance of enhancing women's participation in politics, business, and civil society.*

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> *Issued by UN-Women in November 2016, this report studies the role gender equality plays in the Pacific region, which has experienced many severe weather events in recent years due to climate change. Using Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, and Samoa as evidence, the report reviews the inclusion of women in planning and implementing policies on disaster risk reduction and climate change. The report takes into consideration how this group is disproportionately affected by these events in comparison to men.*

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