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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2015

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Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 2015 National Model United Nations New York Conference (NMUN•NY)! This year's staff for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are: Directors Evin Sanders (Conference A) and Natalie Keller (Conference B), and Assistant Directors Katie Keelan (Conference A) and Ashley Boyer (Conference B). Evin holds a B.A. in Political Science, and International Relations and works as Director of Operations for a California non-profit. He is excited to return for his third year on staff at NMUN•NY. Natalie studies law at the University of Bonn with a focus on private international law. This is her fourth year on staff. Katie holds a B.A. in International Studies and Political Science from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and works as a Client Services Specialist at Covington and Burling L.L.P. She participated in NMUN-NY as a delegate for five years and is joining staff for the first time. Ashley is a graduate student at Georgia State University studying Comparative and International Politics. This is her first year on staff, and fifth year attending NMUN.

The topics under discussion for UNDP are:

I. Building Democratic Governance by Expanding Access to Justice
II. Fostering Developing Countries' Capacities for Climate Change Adaptation
III. Improving Access to Water and Sanitation for Socioeconomic Development

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is an organization the United Nations created to improve cooperation and interaction between the various stakeholders in development. UNDP has been working with numerous partners on developing the Sustainable Development Goals to replace the Millennium Development Goals after their expiration in 2015. The UNDP's primary focus has been on completing the Millennium Development Goals, and after their expiration, the Sustainable Development Goals will become the priority of the UNDP. Your work as a delegate of this committee should focus on adopting resolutions that address the needs of each topic as presented in the Background Guide. We hope to see each delegation work diligently and cooperatively to find creative solutions not only during the conference, but also in your position papers.

At NMUN•NY 2015, we are simulating the Executive Board of UNDP in terms of composition and size; however, delegates are not limited to the strict mandate of the Executive Board, as a budgetary and administrative body, during the conference. On the contrary, for the purposes of NMUN•NY 2015, and in line with the educational mission of the conference, the committee has the ability to make programmatic and policy decisions on issues within the mandate of UNDP in line with the overall function of the organization.

This background guide is not meant to replace further research and we highly encourage you to consider the background guide, Bibliography, and Annotated Bibliography as starting points as you explore in-depth your countries' policies regarding these topics. In preparation for the conference, each delegation will be submitting a position paper. Please take note of the NMUN policies on the website and in the Delegate Preparation Guide regarding plagiarism, codes of conduct/dress code/sexual harassment, awards philosophy/evaluation method, etc. Adherence to these guidelines is mandatory. The NMUN Rules of Procedure are available to download from the NMUN website. This document includes the long and short form of the rules, as well as an explanatory narrative and example script of the flow of procedure. It is thus an essential instrument in preparing for the conference, and a reference during committee.

If you have any questions concerning your preparation for the Committee or the Conference itself, feel free to contact the Under-Secretaries-General for Development, Sonia Patel (Conference A) and Patrick Parsons (Conference B). You can reach either USG by contacting them at: usg.development@nmun.org. We wish you all the best for your preparation for the Conference and look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,

Conference A

Evin Sanders, *Director*
Katie Keelan, *Assistant Director*

Conference B

Natalie Keller, *Director*
Ashley Boyer, *Assistant Director*

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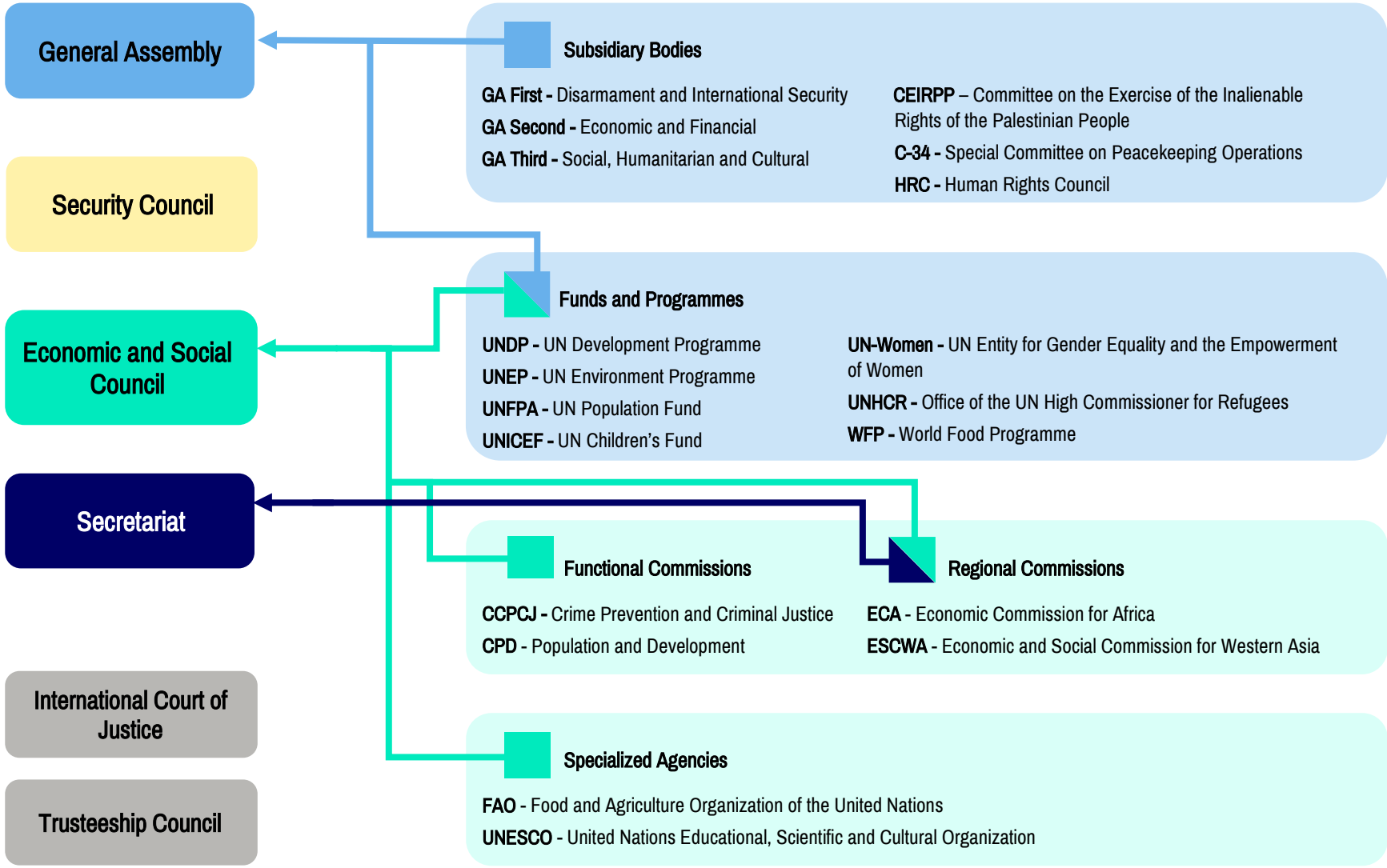
Abbreviations

ALM	Adaptation Learning Mechanism
ANEW	African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation
CAF	Cancun Adaptation Framework
CBA	Community-Based Adaptation
CBP	Community-Based Projects
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CDES	Capacity Development for Environmental Sustainability
CSO	Civil society organizations
DGTTF	Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EDF	Environmental Defense Fund
GA	General Assembly
GCAP	Global Climate Adaptation Partnership
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GEPA	Gender Equality and Public Administration
GWP	Global Water Partnership
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
IWRM	Integrated water resource management
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LEG	LDC Expert Group
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NAPA	National Adaptation Programs of Action
NEPAD	New Economic Partnership for African Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
RC	Resident Coordinator
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCSD	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
UNCT	United Nations Country Teams
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDEF	United Nations Democracy Fund
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
WGF	Water Governance Facility
WGP	Water Governance Program
WHO	World Health Organisation
WRI	World Resources Institute
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

United Nations System at NMUN•NY

This diagram illustrates the UN System simulated at NMUN•NY. It shows where each committee "sits" within the system, to help understand the reportage and relationships between the entities. Examine the diagram alongside the Committee Overview to gain a clear picture of the committee's position, purpose and powers within the UN System.



Committee Overview

Introduction

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the chief entity in the United Nations (UN) system that works in the area of development.[1] UNDP is actively promoting development in 170 countries by carrying out activities aimed at reducing poverty, supporting democratic governance, increasing crisis prevention and recovery, promoting environment and energy for sustainable development, and achieving international development goals, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).[2] UNDP works closely with and leads the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), which is the inter-agency group within the UN system that coordinates development efforts across the entire UN system.[3] The UNDG is comprised of 32 UN funds, offices, programs, departments, and agencies.[4] The chair of UNDG is also the administrator of UNDP and reports to the Secretary-General.[5] Together UNDP and the UNDG work towards guidance at mostly a global level.[6] This includes the adoption and coordination of UN development activities to make them more efficient and ensure that they comply with the mandate of the respective UN bodies.[7]

The **United Nations Development Programme** (UNDP) is a Programme and Fund of the United Nations, reporting to the Economic and Social Council and General Assembly.

At NMUN•NY 2015, we are simulating the **Executive Board of UNDP** in terms of composition and size; however, delegates are not limited to the strict mandate of the Executive Board, as a budgetary and administrative body, during the conference. On the contrary, for the purposes of NMUN•NY 2015, and in line with the educational mission of the conference, the committee has the ability to make programmatic and policy decisions on issues within the mandate of UNDP in line with the overall function of the organization.

History

UNDP was established in 1966 when the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2029 (XX) led to the combination of the UN Expanded Programme on Technical Assistance with the Special Fund.[8] The Special Fund, established 1958, originally worked to provide technical assistance while the Expanded Programme on Technical Assistance, established 1949, supported less developed countries on an economic and political level.[9] Combining the two sought to optimize the UN's development work by creating a more efficient, unified program while avoiding different entities working separately on the same issue.[10]

Mandate

UNDP's mandate is to "coordinate all UN development activities at the country level," as laid out in General Assembly resolutions 59/250 and 62/208.[11] This responsibility is given to UNDP due to its role managing the Resident Coordinator (RC) system, which encompasses all UN system entities that "deal with operational activities for development, regardless of their formal presence in the country."[12] The RC system brings together the "different

[1] Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.
[2] United Nations Development Programme, *About us*, 2014.
[3] United Nations Development Programme, *Our Partners*, 2014.
[4] United Nations Development Group, *About UNDG*, 2014.
[5] Ibid.
[6] United Nations Development Programme, *Our Partners*, 2014.
[7] United Nations Development Group, *About UNDG*, 2014.
[8] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*, 2013.
[9] International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, *United Nations Development Programme*, 2011.
[10] Ibid.
[11] UN General Assembly, *Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/RES/59/250),* 2005; UN General Assembly, *Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/RES/62/208),* 2008.
[12] UN Development Group, *Resident Coordinator System*.

UN agencies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities at the country level."[13] UNDP and the RC system operationalize the development frameworks negotiated at the policy-level, and implement programs on the ground, making UNDP, as a result, a very important and influential entity within the development community.

Governance, Structure and Membership

> "The current governing bodies of the United Nations Development Programme/the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund shall be transformed into Executive Boards. These Boards shall be responsible for providing inter-governmental support to and supervision of the activities of each fund or programme in accordance with the overall policy guidance of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with their respective responsibility as set out in the Charter, and for ensuring that they are responsive to the needs and priorities of recipient countries."[14]

Executive Board

UNDP is headed by an Executive Board, which consists of 36 members that rotate annually.[15] Members are elected 1 May each year by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) during its coordination and management segment.[16] The Executive Board assists the UNDP in their projects supervising them and ensuring that they evolve and adapt to changing situations as well as different needs in countries.[17] The UNDP Executive Board also serves as the Board for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).[18] While UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS are supported by the same Executive Board they each have their own activities, mandates and responsibilities.[19] They are also all guided by the ECOSOC, the General Assembly and the Charter of the UN.[20] The Executive Board is under the authority of ECOSOC and reports annually on its program of work and recommendations for field-level improvement.[21] UNDP's headquarters are in New York City, but there are liaison offices and regional centers in different cities around the world.[22] There are three sessions each year; one annual session held in either New York City or Geneva on a rotating basis and two regular sessions held in New York City.[23]

The Executive Board is comprised of members from five different geographic groups with eight members from the group of African States, seven from the group of Asian and Pacific States, four from the group of Eastern European States, five from the group of Latin America and the Caribbean States, and 12 from the group of Western European and Other States.[24] Members are usually elected for a three-year-term, but the group of Western European and Other States instead decides on its rotation internally.[25]

The Bureau of the Executive Board is responsible for the organization and preparation of meetings, and it supports transparency and dialogue in the decision-making of the Executive Board by organizing and coordinating their meetings and selecting teams for field visits.[26] The Bureau is headed by a President and four Vice-Presidents elected at each first regular session according to geographic regions to assure equality.[27] The rules of procedure for the

[13] UN Development Group, *Resident Coordinator System*.
[14] UN General Assembly, *Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields (A/RES/48/162)*, 1993.
[15] United Nations Development Programme, *Information Note on the Executive Board*, 2014.
[16] Ibid.
[17] United Nations Development Programme, *Executive Board,* 2014.
[18] United Nations Development Programme, *Information Note on the Executive Board*, 2014.
[19] Ibid.
[20] Ibid.
[21] Ibid.
[22] United Nations Development Programme, *A Beginner's Guide to the United Nations Development Programme*, 2011.
[23] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14,* 2013.
[24] United Nations Development Programme, *Information Note on the Executive Board*, 2014.
[25] Ibid.
[26] Ibid.
[27] Ibid.

Executive Board aim for decision-making by consensus, but in cases where a vote is needed, the rules of procedure of the ECOSOC are used.[28]

Budget
UNDP's budget is supported by donor countries, international financial institutions, and the private sector.[29] It consists of voluntary contributions on a regular basis from UN Member States or governments and funds.[30] The budget for UNDP's individual projects and activities comes from organizations and governments with UNDP being the top budget source.[31] The Executive Board decides on budgets and financial plans.[32] In order to better coordinate future activities such as the *UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017*, the Administrator of the Executive Board reported on the UNDP integrated budget estimates for 2014-2017, estimating contributions and expenditures, and stating the importance of the Executive Board in budget decisions for more efficiency.[33]

Powers and Functions

The work of UNDP is carried out in countries all over the world, but it is especially important for countries that emerge from conflicts.[34] To assist in these efforts, the UNDP also administers and utilizes the United Nations Volunteers and the United Nations Capital Development Fund.[35] To function effectively across the globe, UNDP works to assemble partnerships, build capacity, and strengthen global development policies.

Partnerships
Partnerships are crucial to the work of UNDP.[36] Partnerships within the UN system and with the private sector, civil society organizations, financial institutions, and various foundations enable UNDP to finance its activities and carry out projects.[37] Concerning conflicts, UNDP works with governments and local communities to prevent violence by promoting dialogue and laws that uphold human rights.[38] Environment and energy forms another area where partnerships are necessary and is important because the poorest are usually among those most affected by a lack of access to affordable energy and sustainable environmental development, making it necessary for UNDP to focus on addressing this area on different levels.[39] This includes collaboration from a global to a regional level, with the help of UNDP, to preserve freshwater systems and manage different ecosystems using green strategies to counteract climate change.[40]

To reach the MDGs, UNDP uses partnerships with governments, programs, and funds such as the United Kingdom's Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction.[41] With this particular partnership UNDP was able to give grants to families, and especially to women, in Bangladesh to support them in starting small businesses and contributing to savings groups that are set up for emergencies.[42] Through partnerships, UNDP not only helps countries build capacities to prevent and treat HIV but also underlines economic and social factors that impact health to raise awareness.[43]

Capacity-building
Building capacity is a focus area that allows UNDP to enhance the performance of different institutions and projects.[44] This is necessary so that programs or initiatives within countries can strengthen development, public

[28] United Nations Development Programme, *The Executive Board Rules of Procedure,* 2011.
[29] United Nations Development Programme, *Our Partners*, 2014.
[30] United Nations Development Programme, *Income and Expenditures*, 2014.
[31] United Nations Development Programme, *Our projects*, 2014.
[32] United Nations Development Programme, *The Executive Board Rules of Procedure*, 2011.
[33] United Nations Development Programme. *UNDP integrated budget estimates for 2014-2017*, 2013.
[34] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14,* 2013.
[35] Ibid.
[36] United Nations Development Programme, *Our Partners*, 2014.
[37] Ibid.
[38] United Nations Development Programme, *Crisis Prevention & Recovery*, 2014.
[39] United Nations Development Programme, *Environment and Energy*, 2014.
[40] Ibid.
[41] United Nations Development Programme, *Bangladesh: Empowering women to fight poverty*, 2014.
[42] Ibid.
[43] United Nations Development Programme, *HIV/AIDS*, 2014.
[44] United Nations Development Programme, *Capacity Development*, 2014.

services, or aid.[45] For example, in the context of legal frameworks, UNDP, together with national partners, develops justice reforms and works on strategies to further access to legal aid services.[46] Another example is promoting domestic resources in combination with aid, supporting the MDGs, and strengthening the private sector to create new jobs and promote infrastructure.[47] Similarly, in cooperation with the MDG Fund by the Spanish Government, UNDP achieved access to water and sanitation in some Ecuadorian cities by providing communities with training on financial and technical capacities.[48]

Strengthening global development policy
With different organizations and entities involved in global development policies it is important to coordinate their activities to ensure that efforts are as efficient and effective as possible through consistent collaboration.[49] For this reason, UNDP, as the predominant UN entity for development, is both a member of and chairs the UNDG.[50] The UNDG was established in 1997 by the General Assembly and has since been working to coordinate development activities on a country level.[51] UNDP, together with the UNDG, currently works to build the post-2015 development agenda through global dialogue and discussion.[52] As part of this, UNDP and the UNDG work towards including governments, private sector participants, stakeholders, and especially vulnerable groups such as youth, women, and people with disabilities.[53]

Current Priorities

The main areas that the UNDP focuses on are democratic governance, sustainable development, crisis prevention and recovery, and the reduction of poverty.[54] The *UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017* has the overall goal of reducing inequalities or exclusions and the eradication of poverty.[55] It redefines goals and approaches as well as strategies according to changing circumstances and emphasizes sustainable development, building effective and inclusive democratic governance, and strengthening resilience as focus areas.[56]

On the broad goal of poverty reduction, UNDP acknowledges that to achieve this, human development needs to be promoted by combining economic growth with inclusive growth.[57] Another important focus area, which is unique to UNDP's mandate, is building and promoting democratic governance.[58] This work includes building access to justice, supporting electoral processes, and monitoring human rights protections.[59] Building access to justice on a basic level first means developing legal frameworks and promoting systems that are built on laws as a foundation.[60] Another key area is crisis prevention and recovery, which includes natural disasters, conflicts, and humanitarian assistance.[61] Lastly there is a focus on the key area of HIV and AIDS. Although new HIV infections have declined there are still 34 million people infected with HIV, making this topic important beyond the health sector.[62] Additionally, although women's empowerment is a key area as well it is focused on as a topic for equality and human rights, linking it to the MDGs and other key areas.[63]

Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda

[45] United Nations Development Programme, *Capacity Development*, 2014.
[46] United Nations Development Programme, *Democratic Governance*, 2014.
[47] United Nations Development Programme, *Poverty Reduction*, 2014.
[48] United Nations Development Programme, *Water restores joy to communities in Ecuador*, 2014.
[49] United Nations Development Group, *UNDG Fact Sheet*, 2009.
[50] Ibid.
[51] Ibid.
[52] United Nations Development Programme, *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2014.
[53] Ibid.
[54] New Zealand, *United Nations Handbook 2013-14,* 2013.
[55] United Nations Development Programme, *UNDP Strategic Plan, 2014-2017*, 2014.
[56] Ibid.
[57] United Nations Development Programme, *Poverty Reduction*, 2014.
[58] United Nations Development Group, *UNDP briefing notes,* 2009.
[59] United Nations Development Programme, *Democratic Governance*, 2014.
[60] Ibid.
[61] United Nations Development Programme, *Crisis Prevention & Recovery*, 2014.
[62] United Nations Development Programme, *HIV/AIDS*, 2014.
[63] United Nations Development Programme, *Women's Empowerment*, 2014.

Of the eight MDGs consisting of 21 targets in areas such as poverty, environment, gender and education, only one goal, eradicating extreme poverty, has been met by halving the number of people living on less than one dollar per day.[64] Other MDG targets have been met as well, such as raising the number of women involved in the world's parliaments, but although there is progress on some targets the goals have not been fully reached yet.[65] For some targets, such as ensuring primary education for all children, initial progress was strong but it did not continue at a level sufficient to meet the target at present.[66]

Considering that the MDGs will conclude in 2015, leaving many goals and targets unmet, there is the need for a post-2015 agenda that builds on successes and lessons learned from the MDGs.[67] Only by ensuring inclusion can the topics of inequalities, water, health, environmental sustainability, governance, conflict and fragility, growth and employment, population dynamics, hunger, food and nutrition security, energy, and education be integrated into a functional post-2015 development agenda.[68]

With projects in over 170 countries, the allocation of UNDP's $5.6 billion budget for 2014 demonstrates its current priorities.[69] 31% of the budget is assigned to poverty reduction and the achievement of the MDGs, 24% to democratic governance, 24% to crisis prevention and recovery, 15% to environment and sustainable development, and 6% to south-south cooperation.[70] Projects are carried out in cooperation with political entities such as in Argentina where they work on reducing poverty and achieving the MDGs on a national level.[71] There they also work on promoting democratic governance by working on administrative management, public sector policy, and gender equality.[72] Depending on the project, UNDP works with state governments, political entities on a national and community level, and non-governmental organizations.[73]

Recent Sessions

The first regular session of the Executive Board in 2014 was held in New York City from 27-31 January 2014.and the second regular session was held in New York City from 2-5 September 2014.[74] The annual session was held in Geneva from 23-27 July 2014.[75] The first regular session was divided into segments for UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, and a joint segment with a focus on country programs and the election of the President and four Vice-Presidents.[76] Further, the UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017, adopted in the second regular session from 9-13 September 2013, was discussed.[77]Two topics of importance that were discussed in this session were South-South cooperation and gender equality.[78] It was decided that although they are part of the *UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017* it is necessary to also include them in the post-2015 development agenda.[79] This was especially important because the Executive Board acknowledged that gender equality, the empowerment of women, and the eradication of poverty are all interconnected.[80] Thus, in order to create a successful post-2015 development agenda, gender equality needs to be a vital part of it.[81] This was underlined by the *UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017* which is in accordance with the *UNDP Strategic Plan 2014-2017* and works towards gender mainstreaming.[82]

Conclusion

[64] United Nations Development Programme, *MDG1*, 2014.
[65] United Nations Development Programme, *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2014*, 2014.
[66] Ibid.
[67] United Nations Development Programme, *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2014.
[68] Ibid.
[69] United Nations Development Programme, *Our projects*, 2014.
[70] Ibid.
[71] United Nations Development Programme, *Our Projects Poverty Reduction & MDG Achievement*, 2014.
[72] United Nations Development Programme, *Argentina Project 00068910*, 2014.
[73] United Nations Development Programme, *Our projects*, 2014.
[74] United Nations Development Programme, *Annual Session 2014*, 2014.
[75] Ibid.
[76] Ibid.
[77] Ibid.
[78] Ibid.
[79] Ibid.
[80] Ibid.
[81] Ibid.
[82] Ibid.

The UNDP Executive Board's unique position atop three organizations, UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS, as well as its cooperative function with the UNDG, position it to further development on all levels. With this wide range of work areas including crisis prevention, democratic governance, environment, and human rights, the most important aspects for a sustainable and equal human development can be targeted by one unified program. The work that has been done in order to achieve the MDGs needs to be continued but with an additional focus on a post-2015 development agenda that builds on the successes and failures of previous development goals. The importance of adapting to different situations as UNDP has done with its strategic plan for 2014-2017 has been identified and implemented. With UNDP's role as the predominant program working on development, its leadership in the UNDG, and its unique mandate to support achievement of the MDGs through various reports, monitoring processes, activities, UNDP is uniquely positioned to take a strong role in developing the post-2015 development agenda.

Annotated Bibliography

New Zealand, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. (2013). *United Nations Handbook 2013-14*. Retrieved 17 August 2014 from: http://www.mfat.govt.nz/downloads/media-and-publications/UN-Handbook-2013-web%20PDF.pdf

The United Nations Handbook 2013-14 provides information not only on UNDP but also on the complete organization of the United Nations. Delegates can find basic information about all programs, committees, or funds within the United Nations system including a quick overview of UNDP. Furthermore, it provides information on involvement of UNDP with other programs, committees, and funds, providing the ability to gain an overall understanding of the United Nations.

United Nations Development Programme. (2011). *A Beginner's Guide to the United Nations Development Programme*. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.jposc.org/documents/UNDP%20for%20Beginners/UNDP_for_Beginners_en.pdf

This guide is a comprehensive introduction to UNDP that explains key aspects such as its structure, development, and function. Furthermore, basic questions such as what UNDP does, who does what, principles of UNDP, and funding are discussed and explained. This is a great starting point for delegates to gather basic information before dealing with more specific topics.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Executive Board* [Website]. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/overview.html

This website explains the Executive Board of UNDP. The current membership is shown as well as the dates for each membership so delegates can see when it changes. Latest updates, session documents, and other key documents can be accessed here to follow and understand the work of the Executive Board. Delegates can access recent and older session reports to familiarize themselves with the decisions and work of UNDP. For a better understanding of the process during sessions the rules of procedure for the Executive Board can also be accessed.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Our projects* [Website]. Retrieved 12 July 2014 from: http://open.undp.org/#2014

This is a great source to see the different projects that UNDP is currently involved in. Delegates can search for particular projects by year or region and also get information on projects by general themes such as poverty reduction and achievement of the MDGs or democratic governance. This website shows in what areas UNDP has the most projects and how much funding goes to the offices as well as budget sources. This can help delegates identify sources that provide the budget for activities in their own country or find out what projects are supported by their country.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *The Millennium Development Goals* [Website]. Retrieved 17 August 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/mdgoverview/

This website provides general information as well as information on each specific MDG and its targets. For each MDG a section on what progress was made is available as well as indicators for the targets. Delegates can also access the Millennium Development Goals Report 2014 to view more specific facts and figures such as statistics from 1990 to now as well as information on the MDGs. This allows for a better impression of the work that still needs to be done to achieve the MDGs by 2015.The progress of the MDGs is monitored and evaluated by UNDP to highlight the targets that need to be worked on especially with a focus on the post-2015 development agenda.

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International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities. (2011). *United Nations Development Programme* [Website]. Retrieved 17 August 2014 from: http://www.iaaca.org/AntiCorruptionAuthorities/ByInternationalOrganizations/InterGovernmentalOrganization/201202/t20120215_805478.shtmlhttp://www.iaaca.org/AntiCorruptionAuthorities/ByInternationalOrganizations/InterGovernmentalOrganization/201

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I. Building Democratic Governance by Expanding Access to Justice

"And just as in any local or national community, we need common values to govern the way we live. All communities are held together by common values and a set of rules. Fairness, equality, justice, liberty, and solidarity are the values that formed the basis on which our societies were built. They belong to all of us and are there to help us organize our societies fairly and ensure people live their lives with respect for others."[83]

Introduction

Democratic governance is a multifaceted and integral component in the functioning of a state and serves as the foundation on which states are built and are able to thrive. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) supports democratic governance globally and plays a crucial supporting role in many post-conflict or transitioning states.[84] In fact, UNDP currently has over 6,000 development projects in 177 countries and territories, 25% (or 1,061) of which are considered to fall within the category of democratic governance.[85] Justice is an integral component in "development cooperation" and UNDP sees it as highly related to human development and poverty elimination.[86]

According to the United Nations Department of Public Information (UN DPI), "democratic governance means that people's human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected, promoted and fulfilled, allowing them to live with dignity."[87] Democratic governance thus includes broader economic and social policies that are attentive to the population and supports the ultimate goal of fostering an environment that increases the livelihoods of future generations.[88] It should be noted that the UN does not promote a particular form of government, but rather encourages democratic governance as a set of ideals that have the potential to enhance the fundamental freedoms of all human beings.[89] The principles of democratic governance, along with access to justice, are intertwined and built into the framework of the international legal system including human rights law, criminal law, and refugee law.[90]

To understand the relationship between the access to justice and democratic governance, the principle of democracy must first be understood. The UN is considered to be "one of the largest providers of technical cooperation for democracy and governance globally."[91] UN DPI explains that "democracy, and democratic governance in particular, means that people's human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected, promoted and fulfilled, allowing them to live with dignity."[92] Democratic governance, then, gives citizens the right to make decisions that influence their well-being and to hold their governments accountable.[93]

According to UNDP more countries than ever before are working to establish democratic governance.[94] With an increasing number of states undergoing civil and political transitions, there is a pressing need to investigate the transition process and provide a comprehensive plan of action that not only builds democratic governance but also expands access to justice and restores the confidence of affected populations in their governments.[95] The challenges of building democratic governance are multifaceted and there are is no uniform set of solutions that can be applied within all Member States.[96] In UNDP's democratic governance agenda alone there are eleven areas of focus including access to information and e-governance, access to justice and rule of law, anti-corruption, civic-engagement, electoral systems and processes, human rights, local governance and local development, parliamentary development, public administration, gender empowerment, and youth involvement. As articulated by UNDP, primary goals of the democratic governance program include uniting populations within states, globally facilitating

[83] Annan, *Governance and Values*, 2009.
[84] UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations & OHCHR, *The United Nations Rule of Law Indicators,* 2011, p. v.
[85] UNDP, *Our Projects,* 2014.
[86] UNDP, *Legal Empowerment and Assistance for the Disadvantaged*, 2013.
[87] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and the United Nations*.
[88] Ibid.
[89] Ibid.
[90] Bleiker & Krupanski, *The Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform: Conceptualizing a Complex Relationship*, 2012. p. 23.
[91] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and the United Nations*.
[92] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and Human Rights: the Human Rights Normative Framework*.
[93] Ibid.
[94] UN Democracy Fund, *Guidance Note of the UN Secretary-General on Democracy*.
[95] Ibid.
[96] Ibid.

cooperation and partnerships, and sharing best practices for the promotion of participation, accountability, and effectiveness at all levels of the government.[97] UNDP "aims to build effective and capable states that are accountable, transparent, inclusive and responsive—from elections to participation of women and the poor."[98]

Key Terms
There are various key terms that underpin discussion and research on this topic. Understanding these terms is a prerequisite for developing a comprehensive understanding of the issue as well as a necessary first step in policymaking.

- Access to justice is defined by the UNDP as the "ability of people from disadvantaged groups to prevent and overcome human poverty by seeking and obtaining a remedy, through the justice system, for grievances in accordance with human rights principles and standards."[99]

- UNDP specifies that governance means the arbitration of administrative, political, and economic authority to oversee a country's affairs at all governmental levels.100 It entails the processes, mechanisms, and institutions whereby citizens and groups express their interests and demonstrate their legal rights, meet their obligations, and negotiate and resolve their differences.101

- According to the UN Rule of Law Unit, transitional justice refers to "the full set of processes and mechanisms associated with a society's attempt to come to terms with a legacy of large scale past abuse, in order to secure accountability, serve justice and achieve reconciliation."[102]

  Another important concept is the rule of law. According to the Rule of Law Unit, it is as "a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards. It requires, as well, measures to ensure adherence to the principles of supremacy of law, equality before the law, accountability to the law, fairness in the application of the law, separation of powers, participation in decision-making, legal certainty, avoidance of arbitrariness and procedural and legal transparency." [103] Further, in the Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (A/RES/67/1), Member States agreed that "rule of law applies to all States equally, and to international organizations, including the United Nations and its principal organs, and that respect for and promotion of the rule of law and justice should guide all of their activities and accord predictability and legitimacy to their actions. We also recognize that all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to just, fair and equitable laws and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law."[104]

- Public administration has two highly related meanings. First, it includes the combined infrastructure (policies, guidelines, regulations, organizational structure, personnel, etc.) supported by the budget of the state and responsible for overseeing and directing the affairs of the executive government and its relations with stakeholders in the state.[105] Second, it further includes the oversight and execution of the entire set of government activities pertaining to the enforcement of laws, regulations, and government decisions and the distribution of public goods and services.[106]

[97] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and Human Rights: the Human Rights Normative Framework*.
[98] UNDP, *Democratic Governance*, 2014.
[99] UNDP, *Legal Empowerment and Assistance for the Disadvantaged*, 2013.
[100] UNDP, *Governance for sustainable human development*, 1997.
[101] UN Economic and Social Council, *Definition of basic concepts and terminologies in governance and public administration: Note by the Secretariat (E/C.16/2006/4)*, 2006, p. 3.
[102] UN Rule of Law Unit, *Transitional justice*.
[103] Ibid.
[104] UN General Assembly, *Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (A/RES/67/1)*, 2012.
[105] UNDP, *Governance for sustainable human development*, 1997.
[106] Ibid.

International and Regional Framework

The international and regional framework pertaining to democratic governance and access to justice dates back to the inception of the UN.[107] Although democracy is not specifically referred to in the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), the preamble's opening line "We the Peoples" demonstrates that democratic governance and the will of the people as a source for sovereign legitimacy, are among the most important founding principles of the UN.[108] The *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) further projects "the concept of democracy by stating the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government," and further contributes to "global acceptance of democracy as a universal value."[109]

Article 14 paragraph 3(d) of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR) (1966) stipulates that among other rights, all human beings should be tried fairly and be able to defend himself or herself in person or through legal assistance of his or her own preference, to be presented with information regarding his or her rights in the case the individual does not possess legal assistance, and to have legal assistance assigned in any instance where the interests of justice deem necessary and without payment in any instance if he or she does not have resources to pay for it.[110] The ICCPR delineates additional norms and principles directly related to the concept of democracy through Articles 19, 21, 22 and 25.[111] The ICCPR is an important human rights covenant that provides a range of individual protections pertaining to political and civil liberties and requires states that have ratified the treaty to uphold and protect those rights, which include the right to life and human dignity; equality before the law; freedom of speech, assembly, and association; freedom from torture and arbitrary detention; gender equality; and the right to a fair trial.[112] This covenant obliges governments to enact administrative, judicial, and legislative action in order to uphold the rights stipulated in the treaty. At present, over 160 countries have ratified the ICCPR.[113]

The *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW) (1979) ensures that the "187 States parties shall ensure to women, on equal terms with men, the right to vote and stand for elections, and participate in public life and decision-making."[114] CEDAW serves as and is highly important because it proves to be fundamental in the women's rights agenda and ensures that women have the protection of their civil and political liberties upheld.

Additionally, according to UN DPI, the UN General Assembly (GA) has adopted at least one resolution annually dealing with some aspect of democracy for the last 25 years.[115] For example, GA resolution 62/7 sought to promote democratization, development, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms by establishing 15 September of each year as the International Day of Democracy.[116] More recently, GA resolution 68/175 reiterated the international community's belief that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order that fosters the full realization of human rights.[117] The General Assembly's 68th session also highlighted the importance of justice in resolution 68/188, which underscored a belief that the post-2015 development agenda should be guided by respect for the rule of law.[118]

Finally, the *Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels* (A/RES/67/1) is a crucial piece of the normative framework.[119] In the

[107] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and the United Nations*.
[108] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and Human Rights: the Human Rights Normative Framework*.
[109] UN General Assembly, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948.
[110] UN General Assembly, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/RES/2200 (XXI))*, 1966, p. 14.
[111] Ibid., arts. 19, 21, 22, 25.
[112] American Civil Liberties Union, *FAQ: The Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)*, 2014.
[113] Ibid.
[114] UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/RES/34/180)*, 1979.
[115] UN Department of Public Information, *Global Issues: Democracy*.
[116] UN General Assembly, *Support by the UN system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies (A/RES/62/7)*, 2007.
[117] UN General Assembly, *Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order (A/RES/68/175)*, 2014.
[118] UN General Assembly, *The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015 (A/RES/68/188)*, 2014.
[119] UN General Assembly, *Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (A/RES/67/1)*, 2012.

declaration, states reaffirmed that "the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations."[120]

Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda
The establishment and review of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), as well as the ongoing discussion of the post-2015 development agenda, has provided opportunities for Member States to further solidify the concept of democracy as a universal ideal. The outcome of the 2005 World Summit, the follow-up to the 2000 UN Millennium Summit, noted that "democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives."[121] The MDGs and the development agenda as a whole have emphasized the importance of the rule of law and good governance reforms in regard to accomplishing the economic and social development goals. Global leaders committed in the Millennium Declaration to "spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.[122] Likewise, they resolved to "strive for the full protection and promotion in all countries of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all and to strengthen the capacity of all countries to implement the principles and practices of democracy and respect for human rights."[123]

Role of the International System

Without proper access to justice, democratic governance will be undermined and development cannot be sustained. Within this context, UNDP's goals are to foster unity among people globally, create partnerships and utilize experiences to promote participation, and develop accountability and capability of the government at all levels.[124] Further, UNDP prioritizes building able and effective states that are inclusive, transparent, accountable, and capable of meeting the needs of its population ranging from fostering free and fair elections to the inclusion and participation of women and marginalized groups.[125]

Democratic Governance and Thematic Trust Fund
The Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund (DGTTF) was established by the UNDP in 2001 under the scope of its democratic governance agenda.[126] The main purpose of this fund is partnering with donors to advance the contributions to UNDP's activities on democratic governance.[127] This funding mechanism serves as a platform to fund innovation for the democratization process and to provide country offices with additional funds to investigate unique approaches to democratic governance that foster inclusive participation, responsive institutions, or international principles in vulnerable states.[128] The DGTTF is one of the most important tools at the disposal of UNDP because of its unique project flexibility and ability to efficiently disperse funds from voluntary contributions.[129] As a result of its success, the demand from Member States for DGTTF fostered assistance has been high; since its inception, the DGTTF has funded 750 country projects through an the annual competitive call for proposals from UNDP country offices.[130]

Oslo Governance Centre
The Oslo Governance Centre works to increase the effectiveness of UNDP by positioning UNDP to achieve international development goals, notably the MDGs.[131] The Oslo Governance Centre establishes global partnerships with highly regarded policy and research institutions to analyze and review UNDP's governance work.[132] Essentially, the mission of the Oslo Governance Centre is to uphold the integrity of UNDP and optimize the impact of its projects by addressing emerging areas of democratic governance and increasing the ability of UNDP's field workers to combat

[120] UN General Assembly, *Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the 67th Session of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels (A/RES/67/1)*, 2012.
[121] UN General Assembly, *2005 World Summit Outcome (A/RES/60/1)*, 2005.
[122] UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2)*, 2000.
[123] UN Department of Public Information, *Democracy and the United Nations*.
[124] UNDP, *Democratic Governance*, 2014.
[125] Ibid.
[126] UNDP, *Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund*, 2014.
[127] Ibid.
[128] Ibid.
[129] UNDP, *Democratic Governance Trust Fund: 2011 Annual Report,* 2012, p.1.
[130] UNDP, *Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund*, 2014.
[131] UNDP, *Oslo Governance Centre,* 2014.
[132] Ibid.

these challenges.[133] The center further serves in an advisory capacity at the national, regional, and global level by providing support to Member States that desire to implement national democratic governance assessments that strengthen democratic governance at the country level."[134]

Other UN entities
Additional UN entities that undertake democratic governance-focused activities include the UN Democracy Fund, which was established in 2005 to serve as a trust fund for building democratic governance globally.[135] The UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations, whose main objective is to uphold international peace and security, also works to uphold and promote the rule of law, civil affairs, and offers electoral assistance.[136] The UN Department of Political Affairs plays an integral role in preventing and resolving global conflict before escalation, and monitors and evaluates political developments around the globe to preemptively address crises before escalation.[137] The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, which upholds the human development component of democratic governance thematic priorities, strengthens international human rights mechanisms; enhances equality and counters discrimination; combats impunity; and strengthens accountability and the rule of law. [138]

Civil Society

Civil society plays a notable role in building democratic governance by expanding access to justice globally. In recent history there has been a significant upsurge in organized non-profit activity globally.[139] Civil society has been long known for piloting relief efforts and upholding human rights in post-conflict and transitional states. Further, civil society plays an integral role in contributing to economic development and bolstering civic and social infrastructure.[140] Several civil society organizations that strive to build democratic governance include Human Rights Watch, which investigates and reports on human rights abuses, Freedom House, which publishes the annual *Freedom in the World* report on political freedoms and civil liberties, Amnesty International, which researches rights abuses and advocates for justice for those whose rights have been violated, and the Carter Center, which works to strengthen democratic institutions and sends observation teams to determine the legitimacy of elections.[141]

Gender and Youth

Gender equality is a primary focus of UNDP and a core component of ensuring access to justice. UNDP seeks to end gender biases in national and international development by incorporating inclusive gender policies, involving men in the processes to end gender inequality, and creating gender-conscious tools to track progress and ensure government accountability.[142] Gender equality and women's empowerment lie at the heart of development and the achievement of the MDGs.[143] Recently within the UN system, there has also been an increasing spotlight on the role of the youth in building democratic governance. UNDP Administrator Helen Clark stated that "the combination of youth and innovation has the potential to create solutions to development challenges and to transform societies."[144] Further, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, has asserted that youth empowerment is an important priority in his Five-year Action Agenda.[145] As such, building up youth proves to be of paramount importance to the UNDP agenda.[146] Youth participation within Member States is essential to achieve sustainable human development.[147] One major project that UNDP embarked on to increase participation was the Partnering with Youth to Build Democratic Societies in the

[133] UNDP, *Oslo Governance Centre,* 2014.
[134] Ibid.
[135] UN Democracy Fund, *About UNDEF*.
[136] UN Peacekeeping, *Peacekeeping issues.*
[137] UN Department of Political Affairs, *Role of the Department of Political Affairs*.
[138] UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Who we are,* 2014.
[139] Ghaus-Pasha, *Role of Civil Society Organizations in Governance*, 2004, p. 2.
[140] Ibid.
[141] UNDP*, A Guide to Civil Society Organizations Working on Democratic Governance*, 2005, p. 5.
[142] UNDP, *Women's Empowerment: Increasing Women's Participation in Politics*, 2014.
[143] Ibid.
[144] UNDP, *Spotlight on Youth*, 2014.
[145] UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, *The Secretary-General's Five-Year Action Agenda*, 2005, p. 10.
[146] UNDP, *Spotlight on Youth*, 2014.
[147] Ibid.

Arab Region initiative.[148] A facet of this project focused on the young men and women who led the 25 January 2011 revolution in Egypt.[149] As Egypt moves forward in the democratic transition process with a new government and recently established constitution, a DGTTF funded project works through a veteran national partner, the Social Contract Center, on youth emphasized governance evaluations.[150]

Public Administration

Public administration is the heartbeat of the government and the mechanism utilized to implement national action plans and policy. UNDP emphasizes the paramount importance of incorporating the principles of equality, justice, accountability and non-discrimination in public administration, asserting that both men and women should hold equal power in regard to the civil-service decision-making and their activities.[151] Without the proper dissemination of resources, there can be no access to justice. That being said, this ideal is much more difficult to realize. Despite the internationally agreed upon target of women holding a minimum of 30% of leadership positions in public administration, the global community has fallen short and women remain underrepresented.[152] Unfortunately, patriarchal institutions that can perpetuate gender-based traditions, attitudes, and practices remain in both developed and developing countries.[153]

UNDP implemented the Global Initiative on Gender Equality and Public Administration (GEPA) with two main purposes including "supporting women's empowerment and expanded participation and leadership in the executive branch of the state" and "contributing to the availability of up-to-date information on gender equality in public administration and of evidence and analysis to facilitate informed policy and decision-making on the subject."[154] GEPA was implemented in two phases, with the first being a fact finding report outlining the current state of gender equality globally, and the second phase, implementing the report's recommendations in line with UNDP's Strategic Plan and *UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy for 2014-2017*, which emphasizes the importance of developing a global mechanism to track women's participation in public administration.[155]

Access to Legal Aid

The accessibility of legal assistance proves to be paramount to fostering the success of the many UNDP facilitated justice and the rule of law programs. The goal of UNDP in regard to these programs is to "empower poor and marginalized groups to access remedies for their grievances and overcome many of the obstacles preventing them from accessing justice."[156] The UNDP specifically supports over 55 countries globally in strengthening the availability and delivery of comprehensive legal aid services.[157] For instance, Georgia's Legal Aid Service was established by the government in 2007, and since its onset, UNDP has bolstered national efforts to quickly improve the quality and scope of legal assistance with a particular emphasis on poor and marginalized groups.[158] Today the legal service has established national coverage and all citizens have obtained the right to access.[159] In fact, Legal Aid Service offices received over 20,000 applications for legal advice and assistance streamed in 2010 alone.[160] Additionally, Legal Aid Services conducted nearly 12,000 consultations, over twice the 4,700 conducted in 2008.[161]

Constitution-Making, Electoral Reform, and the Rule of Law

[148] UN Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, *Regional Focus: Partnering with Youth to Build Democratic Societies in the Arab Region*, 2013.
[149] Ibid.
[150] Ibid.
[151] UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Achieving Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, and Strengthening Development Cooperation*, 2010, p. 2.
[152] UNDP, *Gender Equality in Public Administration - GEPA, Phase I*, p. 1.
[153] UNDP, *Global Report on Gender Equality in Public Administration - GEPA*, 2014.
[154] UNDP, *Gender Equality in Public Administration - GEPA, Phase I*, p. 1.
[155] Ibid.
[156] UNDP, *How We Work*, 2014.
[157] Ibid.
[158] UNDP, *Legal Aid Service in Georgia*, 2014.
[159] Ibid.
[160] Ibid.
[161] Ibid.

UNDP strives to improve the deficiencies in existing electoral and legislative systems globally. The Secretary-General's report on "Transitional justice in Conflict and Post-Conflict Societies" (S/2004/616) was paramount in developing a definition of rule of law, which, as previously stated, is closely linked to democracy.[162] This report defines the concept of justice as "an ideal of accountability and fairness in the protection and vindication of rights and the prevention of punishment of wrongs."[163]

Enhancing and bolstering the rule of law in developing countries, particularly post-conflict or transitioning states, have become cornerstones in the work of the UN.[164] As such, there is an increasing demand throughout the UN system to increase comprehension and execution of justice in countries in transition or emerging from conflict.[165] The rule of law is one component of governance. Additionally, it is integral in the peacebuilding process and further relates to building criminal justice institutions and extension, expands access to justice. The rule of law incorporates many issues including accountability of the government and a transparent judicial process.[166] The four principles of the rule of law are government accountability; clear and concise laws that are fairly and equally administered; fair and accessible processes for enacting and enforcing laws; and an unbiased, independent justice system.[167]

In addition to its work supporting the rule of law, UNDP assists transitioning states in drafting constitutions and implementing governance reforms. On 27 January 2014, Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly voted in favor of a new democratic constitution by an overwhelming majority of its population, following a peaceful and inclusive process, supported by UNDP.[168] UNDP Administrator Helen Clark stated, that "this is truly an historic moment for Tunisia and its citizens, this constitution opens a new chapter in the country's democratic transition."[169] Through UNDP's Constitutional Support Project, with $18 million in funding from Japan, Belgium, the European Union, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, and the UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, technical support was provided to Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly with technical expertise on constitutional and legal provisions.[170] In addition to providing short-term support in drafting a constitution, UNDP further supported the capacity of Tunisia's National Constituent Assembly to effectively govern by building partnerships between it and legislatures in the established democracies of Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, the European Union, Lebanon, Portugal, South Africa, and Switzerland.[171]

Conclusion

Rule of law, access to justice, and legal empowerment collectively foster an atmosphere to meet global development goals.[172] According to Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his report "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" (A/59/2005), "the protection and promotion of the universal values of the rule of law, human rights and democracy are ends in themselves. They are also essential for a world of justice, opportunity and stability. No security agenda and no drive for development will be successful unless they are based on the sure foundation of respect for human dignity."[173]

In conclusion, building democratic governance by expanding access to justice is a painstaking, yet crucial process. It involves a multifaceted approach and close attention to a variety of components including access to justice and rule of law, anti-corruption for development effectiveness, electoral cycle support, governance assessments, strengthening human rights protections, and developing the effectiveness of parliamentary systems.[174] With its

[162] UN Security Council, *The rule of law and transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies: Report of the Secretary-General (S/2011/634)*, 2011.
[163] UN Department of Public Information, *United Nations and the Rule of Law*.
[164] UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations & UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Rule of Law Indicators*, 2011, p. v.
[165] Ibid.
[166] Berg & Desai, *Background Paper: Overview on the Rule of Law and Sustainable Development for the Global Dialogue on Rule of Law and the Post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2013, pp. 1-3.
[167] Ibid.
[168] UNDP, *Celebrating the First Bloom of the Arab Spring: Success in the Tunisia Constitution-making Process*, 2014, p. 1.
[169] UNDP, *New constitution a historic landmark on journey to democracy for Tunisia*, 2014.
[170] UNDP, *Celebrating the First Bloom of the Arab Spring: Success in the Tunisia Constitution-making Process*, 2014, pp. 1-2.
[171] Ibid., p. 3.
[172] UN Department of Public Information, *United Nations and the Rule of Law*.
[173] UNDP, *Access to Justice and Rule of Law*, 2014.
[174] UNDP, *Our Global Programmes*, 2014.

central role in the broader goals of achieving security, economic development, and the protection of human rights, building democratic justice by expanding access to justice will continue to be at the heart of discussions about the post-2015 development agenda.

Further Research

Delegates should consider questions such as: How can the international community stabilize transitioning states effectively and efficiently? How can these approaches be applied to each Member State at varying stages in the transition process? How can UNDP improve their current infrastructure as it pertains to access to justice within Member States and at the regional and international level? Taking into consideration that all Member States have their own unique challenges related to improving their internal framework in regard to building democratic governance by expanding access to justice, delegates should investigate how the domestic legal framework can be strengthened to facilitate equal participation of both men and women. Finally, delegates should investigate the democratic governance programs being implemented domestically, regionally, and internationally and evaluate the effectiveness of such programs. Are there areas that could be strengthened to better promote democratic governance and encourage linkages to the access of justice? Are there new approaches that could be considered, building on existing good practices and successful programs?

Annotated Bibliography

United Nations, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. (2013). *New York, 12 December 2013 - Deputy Secretary-General's Remarks to Access to Justice and the Post-2015 Agenda.* Retrieved 11 July 2014 from: http://www.un.org/sg/dsg/statements/index.asp?nid=477

These remarks highlight the importance of access to justice and rule of law in promoting development. The Deputy Secretary-General states that economic development must be coupled with the advancement of justice. It stresses the need for rule of law and access to justice to be key issues in the post-2015 development agenda. This is critical in the formulation of policies that articulate the post-2015 agenda while still incorporating both the principles of democratic governance and access to justice.

United Nations Development Programme. (2000). *UNDP Action Plan*. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from: http://web.undp.org/execbrd/undp-action-plan.shtml

In this text, UNDP summarizes its Action Plan for 2008-2013 and outlines the necessary steps in implementing them. Actions to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of UNDP in achieving the Millennium Development Goals have been taken to ensure that countries are fulfilling their development goals. In addition, it provides access to link for further research and information and a basis on which to frame policy.

United Nations Development Programme. (2010). *2008 Annual Report: Anti-Corruption in Development.* Retrieved 10 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/aplaws/publication/en/publications/democratic-governance/dg-publications-for-website/2008-annual-report-anti-corruption--in-development/Anti-Corruption_Annual%20Report_2008.pdf

The presence and exercise of corruption hinders the pursuance of development; specifically democratic governance. This document is a clearly written report on the regional and global anti-corruption measures. Major regional activities and initiatives to promote anti-corruption are detailed, as well as networks and workshops established to eliminate corruption.

United National Development Programme. (2011). 2010 *Global Programme Annual Report: Accelerating Access to Justice for Human Development: A UNDP Rule of Law Initiative* [Annual Report]. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/access_to_justiceandruleoflaw/2010_global_programmeannualreportacceleratingaccesstojusticeforh/

Significant achievements of the Global Programme are outlined in this report, including advances in legal awareness and assistance as legal empowerment, and women's empowerment and legal pluralism. The delivery of justice programming for the Asia-Pacific region was strengthen and initiatives to increase citizens' understanding of justice were undertaken in 2010. This report is a great resource for delegates to begin their research on the links of access to justice and human development.

United Nations, Department of Peacekeeping Operations & United Nations, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2011). *The United Nations Rule of Law Indicators* [Report]. Retrieved 10 October 2014 from: http://www.un.org/en/events/peacekeepersday/2011/publications/un_rule_of_law_indicators.pdf

In this document, UNDP provides a detailed background pertaining to the intricacies that encompass the rule of law and what that agenda entails. Additionally, it proves to be an integral starting point to develop an understanding of the connection between the rule of law, access to justice and ultimately the foundation in which to build democratic governance.

United Nations Development Programme. (2013). *Rule of Law and Development: Integrating Rule of Law in the Post-2015 Development Framework* [Background Note]. Retrieved 9 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/dg-publications/governance-and-the-post-2015-development-framework/

The issue brief provides a clear analysis of rule of law and its relation to development. Gender equality, inclusion, and requiring accountability on legal systems and power are among the key items discussed. It will help assist delegate in understanding the strategies of UNDP to achieve sustainable development in present and future goals.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Gender Equality and Public Administration* [Report]. Retrieved 19 October 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Democratic%20Governance/Women-s%20Empowerment/GEPA%20Global%20Report%20May%202014.pdf

In this document, UNDP highlights the importance of public administration in the broader terms of solidifying democratic governance and effectively expanding access to justice. The report provides further insight into the idea of engendering the subfields of democratic governance and also explains the relationships between the administration of public services, the rule of law and the overarching theme of development. It will aid the delegate in understanding the strategies of UNDP to engender the democratic governance agenda.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Human Development Report*. Retrieved 19 October 2014 from: http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr14-report-en-1.pdf

In this document, UNDP emphasizes a wide range of issues dealt with by UNDP such as human development, global threats to human development, and addressing societal inclusion to name a few. This report explains foundational concepts that are important to the UNDP and prove to be stumbling blocks in larger scale policy implementation. Particularly of interest is the idea of inclusion as that concept is intertwined in democratic governance as well as access to justice overall.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Why, What and How to Measure* [Report]. Retrieved 18 October 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/crisis%20prevention/UNDP_CPR_ROLMEGuide_August2014.pdf

This publication provides detailed elaboration on the components necessary to successfully assess the extent of a state's rule of law. Furthermore, it seeks to provide suggestions and commentary regarding the best methods nations can employ to establish it. Particularly of interest to this document is the consideration of how rule of law impacts those it is intended to benefit and how a State can measure this attribute.

United Nations, Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services. (2013). *UNDP Strategic Plan, 2014-2017: Addendum 1: Development and institutional results frameworks (DP/2013/43/Add.1).* Retrieved 11 October 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Executive%20Board/2013/Second-regular-session/English/dp2013-40e.pdf

In this document, UNDP explains the purpose of the strategic plan development results framework, which is mutually represented in the planning framework of the United Nations Capital Development Fund and the United Nations Volunteers program. The document further lists anticipated outcomes in program countries, UNDP activities, and output indicators used in reporting on UNDP contribution in fostering democratic governance. This is particularly helpful in understanding the fundamental aspects of the results-based management system.

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II. Fostering Developing Countries' Capacities for Climate Change Adaptation

"Mitigating and adapting to climate change is entirely compatible with pursuing development. Our experience at UNDP, working on these issues over the past two decades, indicates that the right mix of policies, skills, and incentives can influence behavior and encourage investments in climate-friendly businesses and activities. Thereby, we can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and generate new economic opportunities and jobs. This calls for fully integrating thinking about climate change into how we go about our development work."[175]

Introduction

Creating a diversified approach to predict, mitigate, and adapt to climate change is seen as necessary after multiple individual and isolated efforts at addressing climate change have demonstrated limited success.[176] Since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has focused on providing support for the implementation of programs and policies, which move developing countries towards completing the MDGs.[177] This topic will focus on the necessity of developing strategies and infrastructure that allow for adaptation to climate change in order to ensure that basic needs like access to water, food, and sanitation are maintained and insulated from the effects of climate change. Making adjustments to natural environmental systems in order to reduce harm or gain opportunity is the main way in which adaptation to climate change is enacted.[178] Actual and expected climate stimuli are targeted for adjustment, and they are intended to protect infrastructure, economies, and lives from the negative impacts of climate change.[179] Developing infrastructure and mechanisms which allow for adaptation to climate change focus more on: the integration of climate related risks and opportunities into national planning, addressing the needs of more vulnerable groups, and ensuring that those efforts are flexible and resilient enough to navigate future climate challenges.[180] Climate change is an issue that will inevitably affect the entire globe; however, the 2.6 billion poorest peoples are least capable of adapting to climate change.[181] Therefore, the UNDP has focused its efforts for development on those at the greatest risk including women, indigenous peoples, and the poor.[182]

International and Regional Framework

The *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) was formed in 1992 when an international treaty was signed to cooperatively consider how to limit climate change and adapt to the inevitable impacts of that change.[183] Since then, the Convention has grown to incorporate the *Kyoto Protocol* (1997) and the *Durban Platform for Enhanced Action* (2011), and it now serves as the main support for all climate change negotiations.[184] The UNFCCC has five programs which specifically address adaptation: the 2010 Cancun Adaptation Framework (CAF), the 2005 Nairobi Work Program, the 2008 Least Developed Countries (LDC) Work Program, the 2001 LDC Expert Group (LEG), and National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA).[185] These programs have various targets, definitions, and priorities that are to be incorporated into the UNFCCC, as "adaptation must be addressed with the same level of priority as mitigation of climate change."[186]

The Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development was held 20 years after the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in Rio de Janeiro, and 10 years after the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg.[187] These conferences brought together stakeholders from the entire UN system to draft a comprehensive and inclusive strategy for supporting sustainable development efforts.[188]

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[175] UNDP, *Green, Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies*, 2014.
[176] Ibid.
[177] UNDP, *Evaluation of UNDP Strategic Plan*, 2013.
[178] United Nations Development Group, *Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF,* 2014.
[179] Ibid.
[180] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Adapting to Climate Change*, 2014.
[181] UNDP, *Environment & Energy Strategic Themes*, 2014.
[182] UNDP, *Environment & Energy Focus Areas*, 2014.
[183] UNFCCC, *Background on the UNFCCC: The international response to climate change, 2014.*
[184] Ibid.
[185] UNFCCC, *United Nations Framework on Climate Change: overview*, 2014.
[186] UNFCCC, *Cancun Adaptation Framework*, 2014.
[187] United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, *About the Rio+20 Conference*, 2014.
[188] Ibid.

The outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference, titled *The Future We Want,* contains multiple targets and initiatives that will help guide the United Nations (UN) system in its efforts to improve the quality of living for all peoples while preserving the stability of our environment.[189] Most important of those initiatives is the creation of Sustainable Development Goals to replace the MDGs.[190] In October 2014, the Climate Summit met in New York to build support for a meaningful universal climate agreement and organize universal efforts to build resilience to the impacts of climate change.[191] One of the priority topics of the statements of the leaders at the climate summit focused on "strengthening resilience" which refers to the need to improve our climate and financial systems to be able to adapt to the effects of climate change.[192]

Role of the International System

Since the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000, the UNDP has focused on providing support for the implementation of programs and policies, which move developing countries towards completing the MDGs.[193] The MDGs are set to expire in 2015 and there are still many targets which have yet to be met; therefore, UNDP has been participating in the creation of the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).[194] In 2012, the UN General Assembly (GA) adopted resolution 67/266 on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), to assess the UN operational activities for development and establishing system wide policy orientation for development cooperation.[195] This sent a clear message to the UN system that Member States desire a strong UN development system that provides strategically relevant, nimble, and effective sustainable development results.[196] This was a landmark decision because it demonstrated the international community's dedication to sustainable development, but also that Member States actively desire international aid and coordination for achieving sustainable development targets.[197] This recognition of the beneficial nature of sustainable development projects and international cooperation demonstrates the widespread acceptance of the need for capacity development, and entailed within sustainable development is the creation of projects and policies that allow adaptation and flexibility in the face of climate change.

The UN system has a vast network of resources, departments, and agencies which all work towards the goal of improving human development and capacity.[198] In order to better coordinate and assist in the completion of these targets worldwide, the Secretary-General established the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) in 1997, bringing together 32 UN funds, programs, agencies, departments, and offices that play a role in development.[199] The 2013-2016 Strategic Plan of the UNDG emphasizes the MDGs and projects to achieve them, the post-2015 development agenda, crisis/post crisis transition, and national capacity development.[200] The UNDG focuses on the development of strategies, implementation of best practices, and the fostering of a result driven environment.[201] The UNDG has a tiered structure with an advisory group, regional teams, and Member State teams that provide focused efforts with coordination between individual Member States.[202] The UNDG Regional teams focus on providing similar regions with solutions, funding, and administrative support that brings together diverse stakeholders to implement large scale, high impact development projects.[203] This allows for effective local action while still creating a comprehensive plan for furthering sustainable development.[204] The UN Country Teams under the UNDG published a guide titled "Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the Common Country Assessment and UN Development Assistance Framework," recognizing the devastating effect on social, economic, and political

[189] UN DESA, Division for Sustainable Development, *Sustainable Development Topics*, 2014.
[190] Ibid.
[191] United Nations, *Climate Summit 2014 Catalyzing Action,* 2014.
[192] Ibid.
[193] UNDP, *Evaluation of UNDP Strategic Plan*, 2013.
[194] Climate Action Network International. *Integrating Climate Change into the Post-2015 Sustainable Development agenda – workshop*, 2014.
[195] United Nations Development Group, *UNDG Strategic Priorities for 2013-2016,* 2013.
[196] Ibid.
[197] Ibid.
[198] United Nations Development Group, *About the UNDG,* 2014.
[199] Ibid.
[200] United Nations Development Group, *UNDG Strategic Priorities for 2013-2016,* 2013.
[201] Ibid.
[202] Ibid.
[203] United Nations Development Group, *Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF,* 2014.
[204] United Nations Development Group, *About the UNDG,* 2014.

development that natural disasters cause.[205] The purpose of this guide is not only to assist United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) embarking on their Common Country Assessment (CCA), but it can also to be of use when considering climate change adaptation. [206]

Civil society organizations (CSOs) work to support the research and development of strategies to adapt to climate change. One example is the World Resources Institute, which describes the need for climate change adaptation and the role of CSOs in the support of those efforts.[207] CSOs, empowered citizens, and local communities are underutilized resources for climate change adaptation.[208] The WRI's article demonstrates concern for the lack of involvement from local communities, particularly when the international community has recognized the necessity of local involvement and internalization.[209] The Environmental Defense Fund is another CSO that does hands on work in assisting and supporting local communities to adapt to climate change.[210] They published an article that referred to a village in India that has been adapting to climate change with the help of the EDF and its partners.[211] Their program assists local communities in becoming climate change resistant by planting drought resistant crops, developing solar power sources, and incorporating best practices from sustainable agriculture.[212]

Strategy of the United Nations Development Program in Capacity-Building

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Strategic Plan (2008-2013) positions capacity development as the organization's core contribution to development.[213] Within the UNDP system, improving developing countries climate change adaptability originates with the department of Capacity Development and the Environment & Energy group.[214] Organizing the financial, political, and bureaucratic mechanisms that drive capacity-building can be extremely difficult.[215] In order to streamline this process for developing countries, UNDP has published a practitioner's guide addressing Capacity Development for Environmental Sustainability (CDES). The CDES recommends the utilization of the Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM) as implemented by UNDP and funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP), and the when drafting development efforts.[216] The CDES is a series of organizations and steps which when brought together can be very beneficial at achieving development targets. The UN approach to capacity-building for climate change adaptation has focused its efforts for adaptation to climate change in three dimensions: integrated policy and planning, project formulation, funding, implementation, and knowledge management and methodology.[217]

Knowledge Management and Methodology
Adaptation to climate change differs from the mitigation of climate change.[218] Adaptation seeks to protect and insulate systems from existing climate change impacts like desertification.[219] Conversely, the mitigation of climate change is seeking to slow or prevent existing climate change patterns, taking actions to reduce emissions, limit the production of waste, and sustainable land management.[220] One of the most significant challenges of sustainable development is the ability to adapt to climate change, and the uncertainty that is inherent in climate risks.[221] Given the broad spectrum of actors, programs, and policies that are working towards sustainable development, the UNDP has emphasized the need for the exchange of knowledge within and between countries to reduce missteps and

[205] United Nations Development Group, *Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF,* 2014.
[206] Ibid.
[207] World Resource Institute, *Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation: The need and role of Civil Society Organizations*, 2014.
[208] Ibid.
[209] Ibid.
[210] Ahuja, *In India, Farmers Adapt to Climate Change*, 2014.
[211] Ibid.
[212] Ibid.
[213] UNDP, *Environment & Energy Strategic Themes*, 2014.
[214] Ibid.
[215] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Capacity Development*, 2011.
[216] UNDP, *Capacity Development for Environmental Sustainability*, 2011, pp. 44.
[217] UNDP, *Evaluation of UNDP Strategic Plan*, 2013.
[218] United Nations, *Mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system*, 2014.
[219] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Adapting to Climate Change*, 2014.
[220] United Nations, *Mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system*, 2014.
[221] IISD, *Climate Change*, 2014.

improve effectiveness.[222] Specific action to bring together various sources of experience, knowledge, and methodology is through an initiative of UNDP and partner development agencies, called the Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM).[223] The mission of the ALM is to share knowledge and build partnerships in recognition of the power of knowledge, communication, and technology in the development of capacity to adapt to climate change.[224] This initiative is main effort of UNDP to incorporate a wide range of experience and knowledge from previous programs and policy efforts into an easily accessible source.[225] The UNDP has formed a core partnership with other development bodies to fund and grow the ALM into a forum for information and technology transfers focusing on ensuring that life-sustaining resources, like food and water, are secure in the face of climate change.[226] This partnership includes the UNDP, International Fund for Agricultural Development, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).[227]

Integrated Policy and Planning

The UNDP has found that long-term success comes from integrated national strategies that incorporate all relevant stakeholders from public and private sectors.[228] Forming development strategies that address future economic, social, and political stresses resulting from climate change is part of the UNDP effort to create long-term development planning which addresses possible and real climate changes.[229] Utilizing tools from UNDP and UN development system to coordinate policies across regions, integrate strategies, and gain insight into successful development programs in similar environments will streamline the development process, reduce mistakes, and improve efficiency.[230] The successful coordination of policy and planning across border and nations is critical to the climate change adaptation strategy of UNDP because it recognizes that impacts from climate change across borders.[231]

Project Formulation, financing, and implementation

UNDP focuses on developing capacity to adapt to climate change on three levels: national, sub-national, and the community level.[232] At all three levels, UNDP seeks to insulate high-risk populations from the impacts of future climate change, specifically to ensure agricultural and food security, quality water resources, coastal development, public health, natural resource and land management, and climate related disaster management.[233] There has been a new and increasing emphasis on community-based development, which prioritizes communities who are the greatest risk from the impacts of climate change, and partners with that community in its development efforts.[234] This is a change from typical top down strategies that may include local communities in the preparation or implementation of projects or policies.[235] In Bangladesh, the Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) portfolio contains 5 projects: community-based wetland project, coping with climate risks by empowering women in coastal areas, piloting climate-resilient development initiatives, strengthening community resilience in the southwestern coastal area, and promoting diversified agro-based activities in the Jamalpur district.[236] Other Member States participating in the CBA program include Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Samoa, and Vietnam.[237] Some of these Member States have as many as 10 active development projects currently underway.[238] More detailed descriptions on the planning, implementation, expected results, and funding are available on UNDP-ALM's website.[239] The UNDP actively supports the development of an enabling environment that helps to ensure that

[222] UNDP, *Knowledge Management and Methodology,* 2014.
[223] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Project Formulation, Financing, and Implementation*, 2014.
[224] UNDP Adaptation Learning Mechanism, *About Adaptation Learning Mechanism*, 2014.
[225] UNDP, *Stocktaking of Tools and Guidelines to Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation*, 2010, p.8.
[226] UNDP Adaptation Learning Mechanism, *About Adaptation Learning Mechanism*, 2014.
[227] Ibid.
[228] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Capacity Development*, 2011.
[229] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Integrated Policy and Planning*, 2014.
[230] Ibid.
[231] UNDP, *Green, Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies*, 2014.
[232] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Integrated Policy and Planning*, 2014.
[233] Ibid.
[234] UNDP Adaptation Learning Mechanism, *Community-Based Adaptation Project,* 2014.
[235] IISD, *Climate Change*, 2014.
[236] UNDP Adaptation Learning Mechanism, *Community-Based Adaptation Project,* 2014.
[237] Ibid.
[238] Ibid.
[239] Ibid.

overarching national planning and fiscal policies routinely account for climate change risks in their design.[240] Currently, funding for these efforts come from multilateral and bilateral sources including: Member States, the GEF, and co-financing leveraged by UNDP itself in order to achieve baseline support for development needs.[241]

Engaging the Private Sector

GEF was created in 1991 with the objective of bringing together Member States, international institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector to address global environment issues.[242] Together, over the last 23 years, this group has leveraged $58 billion in co-financing for nearly 4,000 projects around the world, and established protected environments around the globe equal to roughly the size of Brazil.[243] Their programs, knowledge, and funding have contributed to successful sustainable development programs around the world, and have provided clear empirical evidence of how coordination between stakeholders from Member States, civil society, and the private sector can be incredibly effective at long-term capacity-building for human development as well as preserving our environment.[244] The GEF serves as the financial mechanism for several UN conventions, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.[245] Further integration of climate change adaptation by the private sector into development efforts will provide greater security to investment, as well as protect the interests of their countries of operation.[246]

In a joint review article on "Climate and Development from the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Operations," GEF, and the International Finance Corporation, recognize the private sector for its potential to develop infrastructure, while also being reminded of the great costs associated with climate change.[247] This article addresses concerns, stresses areas of knowledge, understandings that need improvement, and references some successful actions taken to engage the private sector in capacity-building for adaptation to climate change.[248] The infrastructure and natural resources upon which most private sector companies depend on are under threat from both gradual, and extreme changes in the climate; however, most of the focus has been on the large, extreme weather patterns that have caused trillions of dollars of damage in North America alone.[249] Public-private partnerships are recognized as essential in predicting and adapting to the impacts of climate change by the article.[250] Diminishing water resources in some areas, and alternatively extreme flooding in others, demonstrates the need for the creation, and implementation of localized plans to stabilize and protect life-sustaining resources in the face of extreme climate conditions.[251] The article references Sierra Leone, where the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), financed a Public-Private Sector Forum which led to the design and building of water harvesting, storage, and distribution systems which are meant to withstand projected changes in rainfall patterns and intensity.[252]According to the MDG tracker, Sierra Leone has over 60% access to sustainable water resources, meaning it has completed that portion of MDG 7.c.[253] The main focus of these partnerships is sustaining water and food supplies in the face of extreme weather, which incorporates the design and insulation of key transportation, communication, and governance infrastructure from extreme weather.[254]

[240] UNDP, *Environment & Energy, Project Formulation, Financing, and Implementation*, 2014.
[241] Global Environment Facility, *What is the GEF,* 2014.
[242] Millennium Development Goals Indicators *Sierra Leone completion of MDG 7c*, 2014; Global Environment Facility, *What is the GEF,* 2014.
[243] Global Environment Facility, *What is the GEF,* 2014.
[244] Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program. *Global Publications: Empowering Vulnerable Communities to Address Climate Change Adaptation. 2011.*
[245] Global Environment Facility, *What is the GEF,* 2014.
[246] Ibid.
[247] Biagini & Miller, *Engaging the Private Sector in Adaptation to Climate Change in Developing Countries,* 2013, p. 6.
[248] Ibid., p. 2.
[249] Ibid., p. 6.
[250] UNDP, *Stocktaking of Tools and Guidelines to Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation*, 2010, p. 8.
[251] Biagini & Miller, *Engaging the Private Sector in Adaptation to Climate Change in Developing Countries,* 2013, p. 8.
[252] IISD, *Climate Change*, 2014.
[253] Millennium Development Goals Indicators, *Sierra Leone completion of MDG 7c*, 2014.
[254] IISD, *Climate Change*, 2014.

Economic Development through Sustainable Infrastructure

Many in the public and private sectors have believed that the relationship between economic growth and sustainable development have been at odds because climate change mitigation efforts have been seen as restricting free enterprise.[255] However, sustainable development and adaptation to climate change can stimulate economic development and insulate development efforts from the extreme effects of climate change.[256] Furthermore, the view that climate change mitigation will limit development fails to account for the real and potential losses the private sector will suffer without infrastructure that can adapt to changes in our climate.[257] For example, the textile industry in Thailand was reduced by roughly a quarter because of flooding; agribusiness and food company Bunge reported a $56 million quarterly loss because of droughts in 2010.[258] Similarly, Constellation energy saw reduced quarterly earnings by $0.16 per share because of record-setting heat in Texas.[259] Climate change caused losses of more than $1 trillion of economic growth from 1980 through 2011 specifically because of weather-related events.[260] In the face of this damage, the benefit of creating inclusive regional, country-specific, and domestic strategies for sustainable infrastructure development becomes self-evident. Providing incentives to the private sector for adaptable, sustainable, capacity-building development projects is often critical for the completion of those projects and will create even greater economic growth.[261]

Climate change continues to slow development, and disproportionally impact economically disadvantaged groups including: indigenous peoples, women, and the poor.[262] Those who are currently disadvantaged have fewer resources that can insulate them against the effects of climate change like drought, extreme storms, or flooding.[263] Currently, much of the private sector is aware of the impacts of climate change on their enterprises, and infrastructure, but see little opportunity or incentive to incorporate adaptability or sustainable development into their plans.[264] This outlook must be challenged, and the private sector must be included in the development and implementation of capacity-building designs for adaptation to climate change.[265] UNDP understands the beneficial effects of securing support from the private sector in the design, and implementation of capacity-building.[266] Bringing together multiple stakeholders for a joint program creates a shared sense of investment into the projects. Not only does UNDP utilize this benefit, the Community-Based Projects (CBP) organization uses joint programming to foster, and protect development efforts.[267] The private sector will benefit from the inclusion of adaptable capacity-building into its core principles for development, and governments can incentivize this by provision of information, sensible regulations, and appropriate economic incentives.[268]

Conclusion

Climate change is recognized as a global threat to human development as dwindling natural resources and extreme weather patterns continue to destroy infrastructure and hinder economic gains. Currently, the effects of climate change can be observed around the globe, and the mitigation of future changes is of great importance to the international community. However, because some effects of climate change have already begun to take effect, mitigation will no longer be a sufficient response to its effects. Therefore, fostering developing countries capacity to adapt to climate change will play a large role in our immediate future. The core of all UN development efforts has become the development of policies, programs, and infrastructure, which will be resilient to climate change and will ensure that access to life-sustaining resources like food and water are maintained throughout droughts and other extreme weather patterns. UNDP has placed its focus on the creation of inclusive, community-focused programs that bring resources from around the world to stimulate adaptable, and sustainable development for the most vulnerable

[255] Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program. *Community Based Adaptation*. (2014).
[256] Biagini & Miller, *Engaging the Private Sector in Adaptation to Climate Change in Developing Countries,* 2013, p. 14.
[257] Ibid., p. 130.
[258] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Capacity Development*, 2011.
[259] Scott & Shepherd, *Climate Change as part of the post-2015 Development Agenda,* 2011, p. 2.
[260] Ibid.
[261] UNDP, *Stocktaking of Tools and Guidelines to Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation*, 2010, p. 8.
[262] Ibid.
[263] UNDP, *Fast Facts: Capacity Development*, 2011.
[264] UNDP, *Stocktaking of Tools and Guidelines to Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation*, 2010, p. 8.
[265] *Global Climate Adaptation Partnership*, *About the Global Climate Adaptation Partnership*, 2014.
[266] UNDP, *Green, Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies*, 2014.
[267] UNDP, *Post-2015 Development Agenda,* 2014.
[268] Scott & Shepherd, *Climate Change as part of the post-2015 Development Agenda,* 2011, p. 2.

peoples. This approach is paired with regional and national development strategies because it is proven to have greater success than independent action.[269] The incorporation of the private sector, local actors, and the UN Development System as a whole will provide the most effective progress towards building capacity for adaptation to climate change.

Further Research

While conducting their own research, delegates should consider questions such as: why has UNDP placed greater emphasis on community-based projects over regional, and sub-regional strategies? What tools are available to UNDP, and the international community to incentivize the involvement of the private sector? What role does UNDP have in the creation, and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda? How can UNDP better engage the marginalized members of communities, such as women, the poor, and indigenous peoples, in the development and adaptation process?

[269] *Global Climate Adaptation Partnership*, *About the Global Climate Adaptation Partnership*, 2014.

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Biagini, B. & A. Miller. Global Environment Facility, International Finance Corporation. (2013). *Engaging the Private Sector in Adaptation to Climate Change in Developing Countries: Importance, Status, and Challenges*. Retrieved 15 August 2014 from: http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Biagini%2Band%2BMiller%2BEngaging%2Bthe%2BPrivate%2BSector%2Bin%2BAdaptation%2Bto%2BClimate%2BChange%5B1%5D.pdf

This review article is intended to inform delegates, and organizations on the importance, effectiveness, and status of initiatives to include, and support private sector involvement in sustainable development, and climate change adaptability. The authors represent the climate change adaptation strategy, and operations, global environment facility, and the international finance corporation. The article has detailed insight into the private sectors commitment capacity-building, while also recognizing where the private sector has yet to be fully committed to sustainable development.

Global Environment Facility. (2014). *What is the GEF*. Retrieved 15 August 2014 from: http://www.thegef.org/gef/whatisgef

The Global Environment Facility has spent the last 23 years developing an extensive network of partnerships, and programs for environmental protection, and sustainable development. The GEF is going to be a valuable resource for delegates because of the proven effectiveness of their methods, and the inclusion of multiple stakeholders to provide funding, informational, and technological improvements to be shared throughout the international community. This partnership of various stakeholders demonstrates the effectiveness of such relationships, and will lead delegates to a multitude of sources for development.

Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program. (2014). *Community-Based Adaptation*. Retrieved 14 June 2014 from: https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_areaofwork&view=summary&Itemid=177

This is an important resource for delegates because it is one example of a UN program, and its partners achieving a goal through the use of specialized skill sets. This program, in particular, brings together funding agencies, various UN bodies, and local actors to provide information, administrative, and funding support where it can be most effective. The information, and support of programs like this one are very effective, and delegates can use their work as a case study, and guide.

Global Environment Facility Small Grants Program. (2011). *Global Publications: Empowering Vulnerable Communities to Address Climate Change Adaptation.* Retrieved 14 July 2014 from: https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_areaofwork&view=summary&Itemid=177

This report details critical information about the urgent need for developing nations to create strategies, and grow capacity to adapt to climate change. Due to each country requiring a region specific program that also coordinates with the global strategy for sustainable development, the relevant stakeholders must be informed, and connected. Local actors must also be included when creating and implementing a development strategy to streamline, and improve its efficiency. Delegates should take this approach into account as a successful model when drafting their working papers.

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. (2014) *About the Rio+20 Conference* [Website]. Retrieved 14 July 2014 from: http://www.uncsd2012.org/about.html

The UNCSD is where the post-2015 development agenda was formed as a direction for the UN after the completion of the MDG's. It was recognized that although the MDGs were going to come to an end, its development efforts must be maintained, and expanded beyond their completion date. This conference of various stakeholders is where the future of international development was reestablished as a priority for the UN. The foundation that was formed at this conference will serve as the foundation of the sustainable development agenda, and its outcome will likely affect all peoples around the world. Delegates should look to this source to better understand the context of international development, and the history of sustainable development, and its future.

United Nations Development Group. (2009). *Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into the CCA and UNDAF* [Website]. Retrieved 8 August 2014 from: http://www.undg.org/docs/9866/UNDG-DRR-Guidance-Note-2009_DUP_08-07-2009_11-43-02-734_AM.PDF

This document outlines how teams under the UNDG will begin their Common Country Assessments, and the themes of the assessment. Due to each country requiring a region specific program that also coordinates with the global strategy for sustainable development, the country teams of the UNDG are gathering information, contacts, and indicators of climate risk so that strategies can be further refined. Gathering this data has been crucial to the Post-2015 development agenda creation, and will continue to play a valuable role in the future. Delegates should look to this example of the UN system gathering information to maintain up to date information on the status of the climate. If adaptation to climate change is possible, it will require detailed information to make informed policy.

United Nations Development Group. (2014). *Environment & Energy, Adapting to Climate Change* [Website]. Retrieved 8 August 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/strategic_themes/climate_change/focus_areas/adapting_to_climatechange/

This source is the basis of climate change adaptation policy by UNDP. It references the policies, targets, and programs that UNDP is currently working under. UNDP is one of the leading development experts and financers in the world and the direction they offer is recognized and followed by other development organizations. The strategies, information, and resources available through UNDP are what makes it the foremost expert on development and will guide delegates on how to utilize these resources effectively.

United Nations Development Group. (2008). *Capacity Development for Policy Makers to Address Climate Change* [Website]. Retrieved 13 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/strategic_themes/climate_change/focus_areas/capacity_developmentandtheunfcccprocess/capacity_developmentforpolicymakerstoaddressclimatechange.html

UNDP has been working to improve developing countries capacity to address climate change as part of its strategic plan from 2008-2013. This details the coordination of almost 20 countries in an effort to show where the greatest need for development exists. Delegates can benefit from modeling this kind of multistakeholder participation and cooperation, and using the information gathered by this project from UNDP Environment and Energy group.

United Nations Development Group. (2014). *Green, Low-Emission and Climate-Resilient Development Strategies* [Website]. Retrieved 13 July 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/focus_areas/climate_strategies.html

This is the source of the quote for this section, and this focus area of the Environment and Energy is just one part of the developing countries capacity for climate change adaptation. Focusing on wide scale implementation of climate-resilient, green, and low emission development offers the best opportunity for success. Delegates should use this information to guide them in the creation of their own policy intentions for cooperation and capacity-building.

United Nations Development Programme, Adaptation Learning Mechanism. (2014). *About Adaptation Learning Mechanism.* Retrieved 14 July 2014 from: http://www.undp-alm.org/about

This is a UNDP program that focuses specifically on providing information, and development support for building capacity for adapting to climate change. Informing, and supporting local actors has been deemed the most effective way to bring about change, and development around the globe. Advancing green, low emission, climate-resilient, and sustainable development are very effective as preventative measures against climate change, and delegates should use existing programs to develop strategies for the future.

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Climate Action Network International. (2014). *Integrating Climate Change into the Post-2015 Sustainable Development agenda – workshop*. Retrieved 8 August 2014 from: http://www.climatenetwork.org/event/integrating-climate-change-post-2015-sustainable-development-agenda-workshop

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III. Improving Access to Water and Sanitation for Socioeconomic Development

"Water is a classic common property resource. No one really owns the problem. Therefore, no one really owns the solution."[270]

Introduction

Water is an essential part of human life, yet only 3% of the Earth's water composition is fresh water, and less than 1% of it is fresh surface water accessible to the human population.[271] The importance of water is recognized in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and as the international community approaches the deadline for the MDGs in 2015, socioeconomic development is reliant on the water resources available, and many of them are dwindling.[272] While MDG 7 target C, focused on increasing access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation services, has been achieved, there are significant disparities in progress between regions and populations, which greatly affect the likelihood of increased socioeconomic development in those regions.[273] Therefore, not only is accessibility to water and sanitation resources essential for human health, but increased investments in both the public and private sector on water supply and sanitation can yield more than four times the return in economic productivity.[274] The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) plays a pivotal role in environmental protection efforts by building partnerships that promote capacity-building, creating development plans, and grass roots initiatives.[275] A primary focus of the UNDP is water and ocean governance, through the promotion of water resource management, improvement of water and sanitation accessibility, and enhancement of global cooperative efforts on ocean governance, management, and protection.[276]

International and Regional Framework

From 1969, the international community began to recognize the important elements necessary for an adequate standard of living in various international and regional documents, though they do not all directly reference water and sanitation.[277] In 2010, the General Assembly resolution 64/292 adopted on "the human right to water and sanitation" establishes the international right to water, but discussions on the importance of access to water and sanitation began significantly earlier.[278] The 1977 *Mar Del Plata Action Plan* recognized that regardless of a person's "stage of development and their social and economic conditions," they should always have access to water and sanitation resources.[279] Subsequently, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992, the international community endorsed the need for all peoples to have the right to an adequate standard of living, which now includes water and sanitation.[280] A similar level of support was reiterated in 1994 at the International Conference on Population and Development when the international community readdressed the need to provide an adequate standard of living to all.[281]

In 1992, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, *Agenda 21* was adopted to facilitate sustainable development with this innovative plan of action.[282] Section 18 of *Agenda 21*, entitled "Protection of the Quality and Supply of Freshwater Resources: Application of Integrated Approaches to the Development Management and Use of Water Resources," examines and highlights the intrinsic link between water supply and sanitation and sustainable development.[283] *Agenda 21* introduced a new way of thinking about the environment and its connection to sustainable development, emphasizing the preservation of Earth's natural resources.[284] The *Millennium Declaration*

[270] United Nations News Centre, *Ban Ki-moon warns that water shortages are increasingly driving conflicts,* 2008.
[271] United Nations Development Programme, *Water and Ocean Governance,* 2014.
[272] United Nations Development Programme, *The Millennium Development Goals Report*, 2014.
[273] United Nations Development Programme, *Water and Ocean Governance*, 2014.
[274] UN-Water, *Water, Sanitation and Hygiene,* 2014.
[275] United Nations Development Programme, *Environment and Energy Overview*, 2014.
[276] United Nations Development Programme, *Water and Ocean Governance*, 2014.
[277] UN OHCHR, et al., *The Right to Water: Fact Sheet No. 35,* 2010.
[278] United Nations General Assembly, *The human right to water and sanitation (A/RES/64/292),* 2010.
[279] UN OHCHR, et al., *The Right to Water: Fact Sheet No. 35*, 2010.
[280] Ibid.
[281] Ibid.
[282] United Nations, *Outcomes of Sustainable Development*, 2014.
[283] United Nations Environment Programme, *Protection of the Quality and Supply of Freshwater Resources*, 2014.
[284] UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *Review of implementation of Agenda 21 and the Rio Principles,* 2012.

(2000) continued to focus on improving global development standards by including water in Section IV, entitled "Protecting our common environment."[285] As the efforts of the *Millennium Declaration* continue, the international community now focuses on including water targets as a major topic in the development of a post-2015 development agenda.[286] One of the approaches the UN is taking to achieve success with both the creation and fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to water supply and sanitation is to establish public-private partnerships at the international, regional, national, and local level.[287] As a result, according to UN-Water, these goals would ensure, "healthy people, increase prosperity, equitable societies, protected ecosystems, and resilient community," which would facilitate a more equitable distribution of socioeconomic development efforts in the developing world.[288]

Regionally, a multitude of efforts have been made to reduce the disparity of accessibility to water and sanitation resources.[289] All regions of the developing world have shown improvement in providing access to water supply and sanitation, but less than 75% of the African population has access to improved water resources.[290] In an effort to bring 100% of the African population access to improved drinking water and sanitation resources, *The Africa Water Vision 2025: Equitable and Sustainable Use of Water for Socioeconomic Development* (2009) was created in partnership with the African Union, African Development Bank, Economic Commission for Africa, and the inter-agency UN-Water.[291] This plan reflects the water initiatives and needs of the African continent based on the findings of the Africa Water Vision consultation held in Gaborone, Botswana, in 1999, and Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire, in 2000.[292] Additionally, the Organization of American States (OAS) is working to enhance capacity-building efforts on water governance through intra-state technology transfer and information sharing in line with the Inter-American Program on Sustainable Development.[293] Many regional organizations, such as the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the European Committee of Social Rights have taken steps to acknowledge that the failure of governments to provide access to fresh water resources is a human rights violation.[294]

Role of the International System

The focus on improving water and sanitation took flight in 1972. Water and sanitation was major focus at the UN Conference on Human Environment in 1972, which also addressed the environment, women, children, and, inter alia, sustainable development.[295] The environmental discussion that took place over the next 30 years, including the 1983 creation of the World Commission on Environment and Development, and the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, led to the formation of UN-Water in 2003 as an inter-agency committee with the primary duty to coordinate actions taken on water and sanitation issues with Member States, UN specialized agencies, and other relevant actors.[296] A major initiative by UN-Water was the dedication of a decade to water, called for by UN General Assembly resolution 58/217 on the "International Decade for Action, 'Water for Life: 2005-2015'" in 2003, to raise awareness and increase action on improving water and sanitation access in concurrence with the MDGs.[297] In order to measure the progress of the MDGs, especially the environment based targets, and an annual report, with contributions by many UN specialized agencies and other relevant actors, measures the progress made.[298]

The UNDP is a major contributor to the International Decade for Action "Water for Life: 2005-2015", assisting UN-Water with coordination and communications, and serving as the oversight committee on the progress of the

[285] UN General Assembly, *United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2),* 2000.
[286] UN-Water, *UN-Water's Recommendations for a Global Goal on Water,* 2014.
[287] Ibid.
[288] Ibid.
[289] WHO & UNICEF, *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: 2014 Update,* 2014.
[290] Ibid.
[291] Southern African Development Community, *The Africa Water Vision for 2025,* 2009.
[292] Ibid.
[293] Organization of American States, *The Organization of American States and World Water Day*, 2013.
[294] UN OHCHR, et al., *The Right to Water: Fact Sheet No. 35*, 2010.
[295] The Right to Water and Sanitation, *Timeline of international conferences*, 2014.
[296] UN-Water, *UN-Water's 10 Year Anniversary*, 2014.
[297] UN-Water, *UN-Water's 10 Year Anniversary*, 2014; UN General Assembly, *International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015 (A/RES/58/217)*, 2003.
[298] United Nations, *Millennium Development Goals Reports*, 2014.

MDGs.[299] In order to improve water supply and sanitation, the UNDP focuses on enhancing country coordination, building water and sanitation into the creation of national development plans, capacity-building, providing special attention to least developed and developing Member States, and integrating community-based approaches.[300] In order to accomplish many of these focus areas they work through programs such as Cap-Net, the UNDP's "Capacity Development in Sustainable Water Management Project."[301] Cap-Net is a network designed to work with regional and national networks to develop ways of increasing ownership at the local level to encourage sustainable water management practices; assist in knowledge management; increase collaboration; and increase capacity development.[302] UNDP also places a large emphasis on the role of gender in improving water supply and sanitation efforts, which will ultimately improve socioeconomic development.[303] In many regions, women and children often risk their safety because they bear the primary responsibility of walking great distances to collect water for the household as a daily necessity.[304] Moreover, the number of water resources accessible to vulnerable populations is decreasing.[305]

To complement the work of the UNDP and UN-Water, there are civil society organizations (CSOs) that focus on advocating for improved water and sanitation activities, such as the African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW), which is a coordinating body for CSOs in Africa.[306] With their membership open to "national water and sanitation networks, sub-regional water and sanitation networks, and CSOs, ANEW is able to coordinate multiple approaches to improving water supply and sanitation accessibility.[307] With membership divided into subregions (Central, Eastern, Northern, Southern, and Western Africa), ANEW is able to adequately distribute its resources across the continent.[308] ANEW coordinates with regional organizations focused on water supply and sanitation resources with organizations such as the New Economic Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), the African Ministers' Council on Water, the Freshwater Action Network, and many others to hold conferences that raise awareness on improving access to water.[309] For example, ANEW assisted in coordinating a conference in the Eastern region to allow a forum for actors to discuss implementation of the *Sharm El-Sheikh Commitments for Accelerating the Achievement of Water and Sanitation Goals in Africa* (2008).[310] Through this conference, stakeholders reiterated their commitments to improve the water sanitation and hygiene situation in the Eastern African region, which supplements the actions of the UN and its Member States at the community level.[311]

Water Security and Governance to Improve Socioeconomic Development

Water security is defined in the UN-Water 2013 analytical brief entitled "Water Security & the Global Water Agenda" as, "the capacity of a population to safeguard sustainable access to adequate quality water for sustainable livelihoods, human well-being, and socioeconomic development, for ensuring protection against water-borne pollution and water-related disasters, and for preserving ecosystems in a climate of peace and political stability".[312] While there are many obstacles to achieving water security, including natural and man-made disasters, trans boundary water management, and achieving human security, the brief highlights a number of success stories that emphasize how water security can improve development.[313] For example, the Nile Basin, which provides large populations access to water in eastern Africa, faces many environmental stressors that threaten its productivity, but with regional cooperation, there are collaborative efforts being made to create water security.[314] The Task Force on Water Security was established by UN-Water following the 2010 General Assembly resolution 64/292 on "The

[299] United Nations Development Programme, *A world of development experience*, 2014.
[300] United Nations Development Programme, *Water Supply and Sanitation*, 2014.
[301] Cap-Net, *Strategy and Work Plan*, 2014.
[302] Ibid.
[303] United Nations Development Programme, *Gender and Water,* 2014.
[304] Ibid.
[305] Ibid.
[306] African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation, *About Us*, 2014.
[307] African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation, *Membership*, 2014.
[308] African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation, *Regional News*, 2014.
[309] African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation, *ANEW Partners*, 2014.
[310] African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation, *Eastern Africa*, 2014.
[311] Ibid.
[312] UN-Water, *Water Security & the Global Water Agenda: A UN-Water Analytical Brief*, 2013.
[313] Ibid.
[314] Ibid.

human right to water and sanitation," to advocate for the importance of ensuring water security.[315] It is also essential that water security be incorporated as a major target in the post-2015 development agenda to ensure that socioeconomic development meets an adequate level of food and human security through practices including water governance.[316]

To that end, good water governance leads to increased water security, especially in regions where water resources are scarce.[317] Water governance involves a multitude of structures and actors working towards building a successful institution that will ultimately ensure a high-level of water security.[318] Good water governance requires a strong legislative base, financial resources, technical expertise, and cooperative and collaborative practices to ensure capacity-building and socioeconomic development.[319] To better promote good water governance practices, the UNDP Water Governance Facility (WGF) at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) was created in 2005 to promote reform and implementation in a wide range of issues.[320] The WGF provides a variety of services to Member States in order to ensure water governance by supplying policy support, information sharing, promoting development, and endorsing the achievement of the MDGs at the international, regional, national, and local levels.[321] Through the "Water Integrity Programme," the WGF works to fight corrupt water governance practices by advocating for improved water policy, capacity-building, and risk assessment.[322] The "Water Integrity Programme" works in regional divisions in Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa, and Sub-Saharan Africa by hosting training workshops for those involved in the water governance sector.[323] In addition to the WGF, the UNDP has a Water Governance Program (WGP) in over 150 countries to finance projects related to integrated water resource management (IWRM), water supply and sanitation, and international and regional cooperation.[324] The WGP assists in placing many of the UNDP's projects, such as Cap-Net, in Member States that may not have had the capacity to utilize these types of capacity-building projects to facilitate socioeconomic development.[325]

Integrated Water Resource Management

The World Bank, the UNDP, and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) created the Global Water Partnership (GWP) in 1996, with the sole purpose of promoting integrated water resource management (IWRM).[326] The GWP defines IWRM as "a process, which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of ecosystems and the environment."[327] However, UN-Water emphasizes that there are three categories to define water management: managing the resource, managing the water service, and managing the trade-offs needed to balance supply and demand.[328] IWRM is a practice that is internationally recognized as an acceptable method for the efficient and unbiased development of water supply and sanitation resources across the globe.[329] These three categories require implementation mechanisms as identified during the "International Decade for Action Water for Life: 2005-2015," which includes: an enabling environment, sound institutional structure, management instruments, and infrastructure development.[330] IWRM is a practice that is widely endorsed by Member States, as seen at the 16th Summit of the Head of State and Governments of the Non-Aligned Movement, which noted the benefits of sustainable IWRM practices to promote socioeconomic development.[331]

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[315] UN-Water, *Task Force on Water Security,* 2014.
[316] UN-Water, *Water Security & the Global Water Agenda: A UN-Water Analytical Brief,* 2013.
[317] Ibid.
[318] Ibid.
[319] Ibid.
[320] United Nations Development Programme, *The UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI*, 2014.
[321] Ibid.
[322] Water Governance Facility, *Water Integrity Programme,* 2014.
[323] Water Governance Facility, *Water Integrity Programme Capacity Building Programme in MENA*, 2014.
[324] United Nations Development Programme, *Fast Facts: Adaptive Water Governance,* 2010.
[325] Ibid.
[326] Global Water Partnership, *About GWP*, 2014.
[327] Ibid.
[328] UN-Water, *Water Resource Management*, 2014.
[329] United Nations: International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015*, Integrated Water Resources Management*, 2014.
[330] Ibid.
[331] Non-Aligned Movement, *16th Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement*, 2012, p. 126.

The UNDP continues to promote IWRM by providing assistance to countries through its Transboundary Water Programme, the Water Governance Facility at SIWI, and the Network for Capacity-Building in IWRM, among others, to promote development through the equitable use, distribution, and access of water and sanitation resources to promote development.[332] UNDP also targets specific regions, including the Small Islands Developing States and Central Asia, with dedicated IWRM projects.[333] Additionally, the Water Governance Program works to improve IWRM by assisting Member States in capacity-building and implementing approaches for IWRM that support sectoral reforms, institutions, and development plans.[334] The UNDP also serves as a collaborating partner with the UN-Water Task Force on Water Resource Management through the Water Governance Unit.[335] The primary duties of the Task Force are to gather information through surveys, questionnaires, and monitoring, which is then transferred to reports for analysis.[336] In order to increase accessibility to water and sanitation resources while enhancing socioeconomic development, it is essential that IWRM is incorporates into international, regional, and national policy.[337] The link between water, food, and energy is becoming increasingly clear in the promotion of socioeconomic development, as they are increasingly interdependent.[338] Therefore, it is essential that the necessary policies be in place to create an enabling environment for IWRM strategies to be successful.[339]

UNDP and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Although the UNDP played an integral role in the process of achieving the MDGs, it is taking steps to play an even larger role in the global discussions and creation of the SDGs as the post-2015 development agenda comes to fruition.[340] While MDG 7 target C, was one of the targets achieved, the international community has identified shortcomings regarding the reasons that all of the MDGs could not be achieved despite international, regional, and national efforts.[341] The UNDP, as a co-chair of the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, is actively engaged in facilitating a global discussion to incorporate water as one of many important issues relating to socioeconomic development, in addition to environmental protection and preservation.[342] Additionally, the UNDP has emphasized incorporating the local and individual perspective into the creation of the SDGs to ensure that the new goals address the needs of all people.[343] Water has transformed from a sub-topical issue under the environment in the MDGs, to a primary issue receiving attention as its own thematic issue.[344] Conversations regarding water now include questions of reliability of water supply and sanitation resources as they interconnect with both health and the environment.[345] UN-Water has suggested five measureable targets that include issues not previously addressed by the Millennium Development Goals, including: water governance, universal access, reduction of wastewater pollution, sustainable usage, and water-related disasters.[346] While these goals are not concrete, they give direction on numerous topics related to water use and management that the international community has yet to address with a measureable standard.[347]

Conclusion

While it is evident that the international community has made significant progress in improving access to water supply and sanitation resources in an effort to enhance socioeconomic development, there are many steps that need to be taken to ensure equitable access. As noted in the 2014 MDG Report, there were "748 million people still relying on unsafe drinking water sources in 2012," which is a number that can be reduced with the development of

[332] United Nations Development Programme, *Integrated Water Resource Management*, 2010.
[333] Ibid.
[334] United Nations Development Programme, *Fast Facts: Adaptive Water Governance*, 2010.
[335] UN-Water, *Task Force on Water Resources Management,* 2010.
[336] Ibid.
[337] UN-Water, et al., *Status Report on The Application of Integrated Approaches to Water Resources Management*, 2012.
[338] Ibid.
[339] Ibid.
[340] United Nations Development Programme, *Post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2014.
[341] United Nations Development Group, *The Global Conversation Begins*, 2013, p. 11.
[342] United Nations Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda, *Realizing the Future We Want for All: Report to the Secretary-General*, 2012, p. 26.
[343] United Nations Development Programme*, Post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2014.
[344] United Nations Development Group, *The Global Conversation Begins*, 2013, p. 15.
[345] Ibid.
[346] UN-Water, *Water in the post-2015 Development Agenda*, 2014.
[347] Ibid.

the SDGs in the post-2015 development agenda.[348] With the number of resources available to reduce this number drastically, it is essential that greater efforts be put into ensuring water security through improved water governance and enhanced IWRM strategies. As the creation of the post-2015 development agenda comes to fruition, the international community has found it critical to place further emphasis on including water targets that are clearly defined and achievable. There is still a disparity between the populations of people without access to water supply or sanitation resources, particularly vulnerable populations in developing and least developed countries. Additionally, with the "International Decade for Action Water for Life: 2005-2015" coming to a close, the international community must not lose its focus on building a stronger network to improve accessibility to achieve basic human rights.

Further Research

As delegates conduct research on how the UNDP can continue to improve access to water supply and sanitation resources while improving socioeconomic development, it is important to consider questions such as: how can the technical, logistical, and financial resources available to Member States be increased? What regions suffer the most from depleting water resources, negatively affecting their socioeconomic conditions? How could UNDP further assist Member States in implementing IWRM strategies after the International Decade for Action ends? Delegates should consider whether their own Member States have access to water supply and sanitation resources and if they have improved. While MDG 7 target C has been achieved, what can the UNDP do to continue the momentum and promote additional access to water supply and sanitation resources through sustainable socioeconomic development practices in the development of the SDGs? Lastly, delegates should consider how to integrate civil society networks and NGOs in collaboration with the UNDP to bolster water governance practices. What other collaborations can the UNDP create to promote socioeconomic development, with the focus of improving water supply and sanitation?

[348] United Nations Development Programme, *The Millennium Development Goals Report*, 2014.

Annotated Bibliography

African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation. (2008). *About Us* [Website]. Retrieved 10 August 2014 from: http://www.anewafrica.org/about/index.php

This website describes the workings of an African-based organization that serves to facilitate the collaboration of civil society organizations to improve the water and sanitation conditions in the various African subregions. It provides a substantive look at a regionally focused approach with projects conducted at the local level that are facilitated by the local populations. This CSO provides a different perspective on ways in which water and sanitation can be improved outside of the workings of the United Nations.

Cap-Net. (2014). *Strategy and Work Plan* [Website]. Retrieved 7 September 2014 from: http://www.cap-net.org/about-cap-net/strategy-and-work-plan/

Cap-Net is a network of international actors that work to build sustainable water management practices through capacity development. The UNDP created Cap-Net to improve information sharing, build partnerships, and implement the UNDP Strategic Action Plan. Delegates can utilize Cap-Net as a resource to promote training on a number of water-related issues and topics including IWRM, climate change adaptation, teacher training on water education, and many others.

United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs, Statistics Division. (2014). *The Millennium Development Goals Report: 2014.* New York, NY. Retrieved 9 August 2014 from: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/reports.shtml

The report, conducted by the UNDP, is an annual report that measures the progress of the Millennium Development Goals up to the current year. It specifically analyzes the different regions progress with examples of many countries progress as well. The report breaks down the progress on all eight of the MDGs and their targets, so delegates should pay particular attention to MDG 7 and its related targets. This document paired with the WHO evaluation demonstrates how access to water and sanitation resources has evolved in a decade.

United Nations Development Group. (2013). *The Global Conversation Begins: Emerging View for a New Development Agenda* [Website]. Retrieved 6 October 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/global-conversation-begins/

This report gives and introductory snapshot to the discussions taking place internationally regarding the post-2015 development agenda. It addresses the shortcomings of the MDGs in addition to the challenges certain Member States face in achieving any set of measureable goals. It reflects on the consultations that have occurred thus far in the international community and serves as a useful tool for delegates to gain a sense of how water has become much more of a focal point in the SDGs. Finally, it provides insight into the opinions of local populations from a number of Member States as a means to demonstrate issues of significance to them.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI* [Website]. Retrieved 10 August 2014 from: http://www.watergovernance.org/resources/WGF_publications

The UNDP Water Governance Facility at SIWI is an excellent website for delegates to gain an understanding of how improved water governance practices can result in improved access to water supply and sanitation resources. It helps define water governance and provides examples of successful water governance practices. Additionally, the website shows how the UNDP collaborates with other institutions to provide aid and assistance to Member States.

United Nations Development Programme. (2014). *Water and Ocean Governance* [Website]. Retrieved 7 August 2014 from: http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/environmentandenergy/focus_areas/water_and_ocean_governance/

As the primary website pertaining to water, this UNDP page describes its workings on promoting the protection of water and ocean resources in addition to the additional sub-topical areas associated with the topic as a whole. The website also gives accessibility to recent publications

and reports published by the UNDP, which increases the understanding of the UNDP's work in this topic. Additionally, a section on facts and figures of the current international situation facilitates a base level understanding of the global water crisis.

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Right, United Nations Human Settlements Programme & World Health Organization. (2010). *The Right to Water: Fact Sheet No. 35. International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015* [Website]. Retrieved 8 August 2014 from: http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human_right_to_water.shtml

This fact sheet introduces how the importance of providing water to all has transformed into a human right. It highlights all of the most important documents that discussed water supply and sanitation for development purposes, which then led the UN General Assembly to create the International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005-2015. Delegates will gain a better understanding of the international, regional, and national frameworks that have been developed as a result of the environmental conferences discussing the importance of providing water and sanitation resources to all.

United Nations Water. (2013). *Water Security & the Global Water Agenda*: *A UN-Water Analytical Brief* [Website]. Retrieved 10 August 2014 from: www.unwater.org/downloads/watersecurity_analyticalbrief.pdf

In order to gain a better understanding of the significance that water security has on improving socioeconomic development, this analytical brief presented by UN-Water provides a strong introduction for delegates. Covering important topics including the link between human and water security, human rights, food security, climate change, and many others, UN-Water addresses the current global situation as well a possible paths to reach solutions.

United Nations Water, United Nations Environmental Programme & United Nations Development Programme. (2012). *Status Report on The Application of Integrated Approaches to Water Resources Management* [Website]. Retrieved 15 August 2014 from: http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/iwrm.shtml

This report is the most recent update on IWRM strategies and efforts occurring within the international community. Based on a series of global surveys, the report makes recommendations for future success as well as addressing the lessons learned from mistakes made. It also makes the connection between socioeconomic development and access to water supply and sanitation very clear throughout the sections of the report. There are valuable recommendations within the report that can be adapted to new solutions for delegates to format to a regional and national position.

16th Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement. (2012). *Final Document. Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran*. Retrieved 14 August 2014 from: http://www.iranwatch.org/library/international-organization/other-international-organization/non-aligned-movement-nam/final-document-16th-summit-heads-state-or-government-non

This report, published after the triennial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement, breaks down the position of the NAM members on a multitude of topics in this final document. Chapter III of this final document entitled "Development, Social, and Human Rights Issues" has subsections on water, climate change, and additional specific topics on various bodies of water. This report provides a substantive look the ways the developing world connects the need for increased water and sanitation resources to improve development.

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