

55TH **COMMISSION** for **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

“Strategies for eradicating poverty
to achieve sustainable development for all”



REPORT ON SIDE EVENTS **KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS** **FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development



The Fifty-Fifth Commission for Social Development

Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development

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Preface

The Fifty-Fifth Commission for Social Development, hereinafter the Commission, took place at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, 1-10 February 2017, with the priority theme of 'Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all'. This was the review year of the two-year review and policy cycle.

With a focus on poverty eradication, this year's Commission marks a vital contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda), the overarching theme of which is to eradicate poverty in all its forms, including extreme poverty. The 2030 Agenda provides a vision of a shared future with equality and opportunities for all, and has pledged to leave no one behind in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The expertise and experience of those who participated in the Commission ensured that it was well positioned to be an effective custodian of the social development agenda.

In contribution to the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the 2030 Agenda, the Commission adopted two draft resolutions that are recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council: 'Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development'; and 'Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. The Commission also adopted a resolution on 'Policies and programmes involving youth'.

In parallel to its general debates and three high level panel discussions, the Commission also held 49 side events. The side events provided a platform for Member States, civil society, academia, the private sector and other stakeholders to come together to share experiences, discuss best practices and debate effective strategies going forward. These events attracted high levels of participation and addressed a wide range of issues from access to mental health services to sustainable transport, youth empowerment, family orientated policies and programmes and the role of the media in promoting social development for all. This report provides a comprehensive record of the thought-provoking discussions and outcomes of all side events.

The achievement of the SDGs in their entirety is within reach. When it comes to implementing the 2030 Agenda, we have a collective responsibility to continue our efforts where they are effective, and to re-strategise and re-energise where they are ineffective. The discussions and outcomes of this year's Commission is a reminder that we have made a lot of progress in eradicating poverty, but we still have a long way to go. Following the Commission's guidance on inclusive social policies and people-centred development, UNDESA/DSPD invite all stakeholders to remain actively engaged in efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and ensure that no one is left behind.



Daniela Bas

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We also want to thank the rapporteurs who generously volunteered to attend side events, taking detailed notes and photographs. They are: Amal Rafeh; Amine Lamrabat; Armando Serrano; Arpine Korekian; Brydie Jameson; Eduardo Espericueta; Gabrielle Sferra; Gisele Kamanou; Heidi Hunter; James Kruglinski; Jan-Willem Lammens; Joanna Nefs; Laura Planas; Luisa Karst; Marissa Storozum; Olga Siokou; Sarah Wallace; Seyeon Lee; Xing Lu; and Yasmine Nejdawi.

The report was prepared by the team managed by Andrew Allimadi, with the core team of Melissa Martin and Sarah Wallace. The report was skilfully designed and edited by Gabriele Sferra and Anson Liski.

Finally, we would like to thank all Member States, civil society organisations, academia, the private sector and all other stakeholders who organised, presented, participated in and attended a side event. The contribution and dedication of these actors made for rich discussions and strengthened collaboration towards achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Introduction

The 49 side events, held during the Fifty-Fifth Commission for Social Development (United Nations Headquarters, New York, 1-10 February 2017), complemented the official programme of the Commission by providing all stakeholders and participants the opportunity to have informal, in-depth discussions and propose policy recommendations, strategies and initiatives related to the issues being addressed by the general debates and high level panel discussions in Conference Room 4.

Side events were organised by, or in collaboration with, a non-governmental organization (NGO) in consultative status with ECOSOC, a Member State or a UN entity. Of the 49 side events that took place, 20 of them were organised jointly by multiple entities, allowing for diverse perspectives and aligning with the inclusive approach of the Commission.

The programme of side events was managed by the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of UNDESA.

All 49 side events were held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Side events in all time slots and conference rooms were generally very well attended, with many events filled to capacity.

Side events covered a broad range of topics closely linked to the social development agenda. Poverty eradication was a core theme of 21 of the 49 side events. For the remaining 28 side events, poverty eradication was approached through different lenses, for example: four events addressed poverty eradication through ageing; four events focused on poverty eradication from the civil society perspective; one side event looked at disability; one side event addressed employment; six events approached poverty eradication through the family; one side event looked at poverty eradication and indigenous peoples; five events focused on social inclusion; and six side events addressed poverty eradication through a youth lens.

A significant number of side events put forward coherent policy recommendations and strategies to eradicate poverty. Although the proposals varied between side events, some frequent themes can be identified, including: collaboration; inclusion; and knowledge sharing. These three themes, considered by many of the side events as key to eradicating poverty and achieving the 2030 Agenda, are also evident in the resolutions adopted by the Commission and its final report. For example, the report noted that the 2030 Agenda was inextricably linked to the rights of women, young people, older persons, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. The parallels between the outcomes of the side events and the outcomes of the Commission serve as a clear indication of the value and relevance of the side events.

Side Event Schedule

| SESSION | ROOM | EVENT | ORGANISER(S) |
|-----------------------------|-------|---|--|
| WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | CR B | Morning Briefing for Civil Society | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM | CR 9 | Resource Mobilization and Innovation for Youth Empowerment for Agenda 2030 Action | INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES |
| 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | CR 7 | The Triad of Grass Roots Engagement, Advocacy, and Systemic Change in the Eradication of Poverty | PERMANENT MISSION OF IRELAND TO THE UN/ DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY/VINCENTIAN FAMILY |
| | CR 8 | Promoting Integrated Policies for Poverty Eradication: Fighting Elderly Abuse in the 2030 Agenda | PERMANENT MISSION OF FRANCE TO THE UN |
| | CR 11 | Promoting Intergenerational Relations: Age Diversity and its Effects on Youth Policy Development | PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA TO THE UN/ PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC TO THE UN/ UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 12 | The role of a Shared Society as a strategy to reduce poverty | CLUB DE MADRID/UNDESA/DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR 9 | Eradicating Poverty: Achieving Global Peace for Sustainable Development | UNESCO CENTRE FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION |
| THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | CR B | Morning Briefing for Civil Society | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | CR 9 | Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria: Progress and Challenges | WORLDWIDE NETWORK NIGERIA: WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT |
| 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM | CR 9 | Promoting Equal Access to Mental Health Resources for All Ages | SOCIETY FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY OF SOCIAL ISSUES |
| 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | CR 9 | Leaving No One Behind: The Imperative of Inclusive Development | UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD)/ OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE/CHRONIC POVERTY ADVISORY NETWORK |
| | CR 12 | Women Agents of Change in Building Shared Societies | CLUB DE MADRID/ UN WOMEN/ UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 8 | UN Youth Delegates Programme: An Opportunity for Youth Engagement at the UN | UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 11 | The Poverty of Politics? Pursuing Sustainable Development for All in Challenging Times | UN RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT/ PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND TO THE UN |
| FRIDAY 3 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | CR B | Morning Briefing for Civil Society | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | CR 9 | Rising Generations: Youth as Drivers of Prospering Communities | BAHA'I INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY |
| 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM | CR 9 | Education for Global Citizenship in Eradicating Poverty: A Crowdsourced Conversation | INSTITUTE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – LORETO GENERALATE |
| 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | CR 9 | The role of civil society in strengthening social policy frameworks for poverty eradication | UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD)/ NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| | CR 12 | Combating inequalities to end poverty | UNESCO-MOST/ UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 6 | Eradicating Poverty as a Human Right for Older Persons | PERMANENT MISSION OF ARGENTINA TO THE UN |
| | CR 7 | Using Legal Mechanisms to Assist in Poverty Eradication | INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN IN LEGAL CAREERS |
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR 11 | Financing social protection floors: work of the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development | INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION/UNDESA/ FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT OFFICE |
| | CR 9 | Technologies, methods and ways of sustainable development management. Theory and Practice | SAIL OF HOPE: RUSSIAN SOLUTIONS FOR THE WORLD |
| 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM | CR 9 | Yoga's impact on poverty eradication, sustainable living and social inclusion | BRAHMA KUMARIS WORLD SPIRITUAL UNIVERSITY/ INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN IN LEGAL CAREERS |
| MONDAY 6 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | CR B | Morning Briefing for Civil Society | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM | CR E | 10 Solutions to Poverty You May Be Ignoring | MEMORY TREES |
| 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM | CR E | Global Citizenship for Social Development: Universal Curriculum Design and ICT-Facilitated Intercultural Learning Environments for All Students | NGO COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION, LEARNING AND LITERACY |
| 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM | CR 12 | Inclusive cities for sustainable families | INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT/ UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 5 | Thinking long-term: Making poverty eradication and environmental protection mutually supportive | INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON SOCIAL WELFARE/ PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND TO THE UN/ INT'L ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK/ UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT/ UNESCO |
| | CR 7 | The Role of Strategic Partnership between Government and Civil Society Organizations in achieving Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development | WORLDWIDE NETWORK NIGERIA: WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT/ AFRICAN YOUTH FOR TRANSPARENCY |

Side Event Schedule

| SESSION | ROOM | EVENT | ORGANISER(S) |
|-----------------------------|-------|---|--|
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR E | Poverty Eradication through Education with Special Reference to Indigenous People | KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES |
| 4:45 PM - 6:00 PM | CR E | Fighting Poverty: A Case for Investing in Family Oriented Policies and Programs | PERMANENT MISSION OF QATAR TO THE UN/ DOHA INTERNATIONAL FAMILY INSTITUTE |
| TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30AM | CR 8 | Improving the Online Participation of the General Public at United Nations Events! | INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT JOURNALISTS |
| 11:45 - 1:00 PM | CR E | Sustainable transport as strategy for the eradication of poverty with focus on inland transport and employment generation to implement social development | BALTIC SEA FORUM/ UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| 1:15 - 2:30 PM | CR 5 | A Human Dignity and Faith Perspective on the Eradication of Poverty for the Incarcerated Population of the World | INTERNATIONAL PRISON CHAPLAINS' ASSOCIATION/ CURE INTERNATIONAL/ PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK TO THE UN |
| | CR 12 | The promotion of mental health and wellbeing for youth as a strategy for social integration and poverty eradication | UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD)/ PERMANENT MISSION OF PALAU TO THE UN/ PERMANENT MISSION OF BELGIUM TO THE UN |
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR E | Achieving Sustainable Development through Social and Political Entrepreneurship: Voices of Global Youth Innovators | SUSTAINUS |
| WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30AM | CR E | Poverty Eradication through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration and SDGs Appropriation: The Case of Mexico | MAYAMA AC |
| 11:45 - 1:00 PM | CR E | Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: Ensuring No One is Left Behind | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT/ WORLDWIDE NETWORK NIGERIA |
| 1:15 - 2:30 PM | CR E | Eradicating Poverty through Education: Increasing Wealth through Sexual Health | CONCEPTS OF TRUTH, INC. |
| | CR 12 | The role of the media in promoting strategies for the eradication of poverty | UNDESA/ DIVISION FOR SOCIAL POLICY & DEVELOPMENT (DSPD) |
| | CR 7 | Leaving no child behind: Promoting youth inclusion through quality education for all | INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT/ PERMANENT MISSION OF QATAR TO THE UN |
| | CR 8 | Leave No One Behind: The Wresinski Approach, 60 Years of Experience | PERMANENT MISSION OF FRANCE TO THE UN/ ATD FOURTH WORLD |
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR E | Early Parenting and Early Childhood Care and Education to address the inter-generational dimension of Poverty: The CEPPs Global Initiative | MAKE MOTHERS MATTER |
| SESSION | ROOM | EVENT | ORGANISER(S) |
| FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY | | | |
| 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM | CR B | Morning Briefing for Civil Society | NGO COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT |
| 10:00 AM - 11:30AM | CR E | The Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development | BEFA WOMEN AND CHILD CARE FOUNDATION |
| 11:45 - 1:00 PM | CR E | Blockchain: A highway to Deliberative Democracy | WORLD JURIST ASSOCIATION |
| | CR A | Early Childhood Development as a Strategy to Eradicate Poverty and Reduce Inequalities in a Migration and Refugee Context | WORLD ORGANISATION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION |
| | CR F | Poverty in Refugee Camps: Challenges and Prospects | THE PALESTINIAN RETURN CENTRE |
| 1:15 - 2:30 PM | CR E | Issues, Challenges and Strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve Sustainable Development for all in context of Sustainable Development Goals | VAAGDHARA |
| | CR 11 | Smart Investments as a recipe for poverty eradication | BARINU INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA TO THE UN |
| | CR 12 | Decent Work as the Most Important Strategy for Poverty Eradication | INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY |
| 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CR E | Sustainable and social development in the Fashion Industry: The paradigm shift necessary to fight poverty | HECHO POR NOSOTROS |

Side Events

Promoting Integrated Policies for Poverty Eradication: Fighting Elderly Abuse in the 2030 Agenda

AGEING

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations

Speakers

- Ms. Cécile Lauer (Moderator)
- Ms. Anne-Marie Courage (Inter-Ministerial Mission for Vigilance and Fight Against Sectarian Abuses (MIVILUDES), France)
- Ms. Chantal Gatignol (Inter-Ministerial Mission for Vigilance and Fight Against Sectarian Abuses (MIVILUDES), France)
- Ms. Dominique Terrasson (Ministry of Health, France)
- Mr. Fabio Menicacci (National Association of the Elderly and Retired of Confartigianato, Italy)
- Ms. Marie Beaulieu (International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA), Canada)



Objectives

To promote an integrated approach to the eradication of poverty by combatting elder abuse, including financial mistreatment and exploitation of older persons.

Key Messages

- Poverty and mistreatment of older persons are issues recognized in the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) as well as the 2015 World Health Organisation (WHO) World Report on Ageing and Health.
- Financial abuse of older persons is considered by many countries the most prevalent type of mistreatment reported (although not the most prevalent type of mistreatment). This raises questions about prevention, detection and intervention.
- Factors that increase susceptibility to financial abuse include isolation, living alone, retirement and physical or mental disabilities.
- Predators work alone or within a network and can include caretakers and relatives, among others.

Recommendations

There is a serious need to promote the rights of older persons. Some methods include: strengthen modalities for systematic collection of consent to all provisions and decisions affecting older persons; establish national and local bodies for the participation of older persons in the elaboration of public policies that concern them; and improve prevention by targeted messaging.

Promoting Intergenerational Relations: Age Diversity and its Effects on Youth Policy Development

AGEING

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 11, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Dejan Bojanic (Moderator, European Youth Forum)
- Ingrid Nemec (Director General, Federal Ministry of Families and Youth, Austria)
- Pedro Robledo (Undersecretary of Youth, Argentina)
- Reneta Kaczmarzka (Focal Point on the Family, UNDESA DSPD)
- Bernd Marin (Director European Bureau for Policy Consulting and Social Research)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations
- Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division for Social Policy and Development



Objectives

To promote intergenerational dialogue between youth, middle-aged persons and older persons about their different needs and requirements and use this dialogue to inform future policies.

Key Messages

- Intergenerational relations are pivotal in healthy, functioning societies and are fundamental to the development of policies that promote youth development and intergenerational justice.

Recommendations

- To promote intergenerational relations, a number of practical initiatives could be implemented, including: developing new citizenship engagements and inter-generational co-operation; volunteering/internships for youth and older persons; office sharing amongst different generations; encouraging the use of new technologies (e-literacy, provision of laptops/tablets etc.); and establishing political and social youth initiatives that focus on fostering intergenerational relations.
- It is also important to think about and raise awareness of the following issues: the role of youth immigration and youth emigration for countries' age structures and policy options; the effect of late child birth and delayed formation of families on age structures; ageing populations and higher life-expectancies and their effect on social security systems; and the contribution that is made by a society of all ages to youth development, the strengthening of the social compact and intergenerational justice.

Eradicating Poverty as a Human Right for Older Persons

AGEING

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 6, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mateo Estreme (Moderator, Deputy Permanent Representative of Argentina)
- Emily Coppel (Communications Manager, BRAC USA)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations

Objectives

This event was aimed at raising awareness of the challenges faced by older persons in society in order to use this knowledge to inform future actions, such as social projects and policies, targeting poverty alleviation and the protection of dignity of older persons. The event focused on key issues including marginalisation and high poverty rates, often due to the fact that older persons have less ownership of properties, land and finance and have little social security and protection. HelpAge and International Federation on Ageing (IFA) shared positive outcomes of, and reflections on, social projects and policies that address pensions and housing and contribute to the achieving the SDGs, particularly SDG 1, no poverty. Particular emphasis was given to the benefits of pension systems, which support older persons to become more independent, autonomous and devote to their families.



Key Messages

- Efforts made to achieve SDG 3, ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, allow for a more inclusive approach to eliminating poverty, particularly poverty affecting older persons.
- Poverty is not only a physical problem but deeply related to self-esteem, dignity, and social relationship.

Recommendations

- A 'life course approach' and intergenerational action are needed to elicit new commitment to achieving human rights and poverty eradication of older persons.
- The side event also encouraged the Commission to advocate for the promotion of peace among ages, groups and agencies at all levels through HUGE4PEACE campaigns.

Leave No One Behind: The Wresinski Approach, 60 Years of Experience

AGEING

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Donald Lee (Moderator)
- Fabienne Bartoli (Counsellor, Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations, NY)
- Emma Speaks (Human Rights Activist, ATD Fourth World, NY)
- Dr. Geneviève Tardieu (International Policy and Advocacy Director, ATD Fourth World, HQ, France)
- Pr. Christopher Winship (Diker-Tishman Professor of Sociology and Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge (MA))

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations
- ATD Fourth World

Objectives

The side event had five key objectives:

- Identify guidelines and good practices to reach the furthest behind relevant for the implementation of the SDGs
- To understand who is left behind and why
- Identify strategies to effectively implement the principle of leaving no one behind
- Anticipate challenges and barriers in reaching the people who are the furthest behind
- Measure the implementation of the principle of leaving no one behind.

Key Messages

- Leaving no one behind means reaching out to those who are furthest behind and socially excluded. ATD Fourth World's 60 years of experience enabled a rich discussion on best practices to achieve this.
- It is important to recognise people in poverty as new partners; thinking together and creating new forms of knowledge is crucial. This shared knowledge has to be brought to the national and international levels through advocacy.
- Examples of conditions conducive to dialogue between people from diverse socio economic backgrounds include: an empowering and motivating atmosphere for both children and adults to help them gain confidence; working on breaking stereotypes; and encouraging public speaking by regularly convening public meetings.
- People from all walks of life who seek to fight poverty have to be made aware that development and progress need to be conceived and implemented with



the people whose life is a constant struggle just to survive; "If we don't meet people living in poverty, we are in danger of losing our humanity".

Recommendations

- In the spirit of The Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights, adopted by the Human Rights Council in September 2012, placing poverty eradication at the centre of the UN human rights agenda must be a priority. There is a need to break the silos that exist between poverty eradication and human rights fields.
- Future policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty must seek and build on the knowledge of those actually living in extreme poverty. Their participation is a key condition for the effectiveness and good governance of public institutions and sustainable development programmes.

The Triad of Grassroots Engagement, Advocacy and Systemic Change in the Eradication of Poverty

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 7, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Sister Teresa Kotturan (Moderator)
- H.E. Ambassador David Donoghue (Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations)
- Dr Linda Sama (Founder and Director of GLOBE (Global Loan Opportunities for Budding Entrepreneurs) programme at St. John's University)
- Dylan Corbett (Executive Director, Hope Border Institute, Ciudad Juarez/El Paso/ Las Cruces)
- Guillermo Campuzano (CM, UN representative for the Congregation of the Mission)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations
- Daughters of Charity/ Vincentian Family



Objectives

The objective of this side event was to shine a light on the interconnectedness of grassroots engagement and advocacy for the systemic change in the eradication of poverty.

Key Messages

- Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon with many causes. One cause of poverty is structural injustice. This is evident at the grassroots level.
- Achieving the eradication of poverty requires a cross-thematic analysis, cross-sector collaboration and cross-functional teams and actions.
- It is imperative that persons living in poverty are involved in poverty eradication and not excluded because typically, they know best the root causes and cultural nuances and offer creative ideas and solutions that work best in their social reality.
- Eradicating poverty requires engagement of persons at the grassroots, advocacy, and systemic change. Without all three effective and long-term change does not take place.

Recommendations

- GLOBE, an academic programme operated out of St John's University, New York, provides microfinance loans to entrepreneurs living in poverty in developing countries. This model should be replicated as well as the replication of other effective models for poverty eradication.
- Women are more likely to be affected by poverty and therefore it is essential that their voices and needs are heard.
- It is essential to connect the global with local advocates.
- Hope Border Institute, an organization in El Paso/ Juarez/ Las Cruces, engages persons at the grassroots by providing leadership training, awareness raising and advocates for policy change related to border issues.

The Role of Civil Society in Strengthening Social Policy Frameworks for Poverty Eradication

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Daniel Perell (Moderator, Chair, NGO Committee on Social Development)
- H.E. Ms. Elisabeta David (Deputy Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations)
- Emily Coppel (Communications Manager, BRAC USA)
- Frank Kanu (Chief Executive Director, OPAD)
- Paul Ladd (Director, UNRISD)
- Hanifa D. Mezoui (UNAC)

Sponsored by

- UNDESA DSPD
- NGO Committee on Social Development

Objectives

This side event had four key objectives. Firstly, to identify best practices by civil society on poverty eradication at the local, national, regional and global levels that can be replicated in other parts of the world. Secondly, to demonstrate to Member States the innovative work being done by NGOs to foster better understanding and collaboration between Member States and NGOs. Thirdly, to build communities of practice on specific issues of strengthening social policy frameworks for poverty eradication. Lastly, the event aimed to promote the United Nations Social Development Network (UNSDN) as the portal where best practices can be shared by NGOs and Member States.



Key Messages

- One of the accomplishments of the SDGs is that they show the complexity of what constitutes development.
- In the Agenda 2030 implementation phase, different levels of government significantly benefit from cooperation with [grassroots] NGOs; however it is not always evident to align activities, nor to effectively engage in partnerships between the different levels in government.
- The heterogeneous composition of Civil Society often has the capacity to support different departments within governments to streamline and complement each other.

Recommendations

- Civil Society can and should be involved from the preparatory phase introducing new legislation to assessing and monitoring its impact once in place. The SDG framework provides an opportunity for collaboration therein.
- Once legislation is in place, Civil Society plays a central role in monitoring developments on the ground, ensuring accountability and feeding back into the auditing process.
- Civil Society can maximize its influencing capacity by building intra civil society coalitions, defining concrete and specific advocacy asks, and by engaging in a constructive and positive relation with government officials, for example by providing information and analysis that can feed into the hierarchy and processes.
- The Commission to enshrine socio-cultural defence strategies into national law as global peace approaches.

The Role of Strategic Partnership between Government and Civil Society Organisations in Achieving Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 7, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Andrew Allimadi (Moderator, UNDESA DSPD)
- H.E. Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire (Senior Special Assistant to the President on the SDGs, Nigeria)
- Dr. Lovette Ego (Chair Person SustainAfrica, USA)
- Daniel Perell (Chair NGO Committee on Social Development, USA)

Sponsored by

- WorldWIDE Network Nigeria: Women Development and Environment/ African Youth for Transparency

Objectives

The objective of this side event was firstly to identify and examine effective strategies and partnerships adopted by countries and governments in implementing the 2030 Agenda. Secondly, the panel discussed what should be the role and relevance of civil society organisations in Africa and considered specifically what capacity and knowledge civil society brings to the table. Lastly, the side event also discussed the role of the private sector in achieving Agenda 2030.



Key Messages

- H.E. Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire commended the work of civil society and its vital role in promoting good governance, as well as the multiple functions civil society organisations (CSOs) play in addressing global challenges. To develop and sustain genuine partnership with civil society, there is a need to understand and assess capacities and weakness of CSOs in order to be better positioned to develop appropriate and effective tools for engaging with them. In the spirit of the 2030 agenda which emphasises the role of partnerships and collaboration of efforts from all parties, H.E. Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire vowed that her office will continue to build and forge strategic partnerships with critical stakeholders which include civil society.
- Dr. Lovette Ego explained the role of the private sector in the lives of rural people faced with extreme poverty. Focusing on SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), Dr. Lovette illustrated how fulfilling these two goals will invariably lead to the attainment of most of the other SDGs, particularly SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger) and SDG 3 (good health and well-being). The strategic mobilisation and organisation of communities will minimize leaving no one behind.
- Speaking on the need for government to partner with civil society in its strategy for poverty eradication and implementing the SDGs, Daniel Perell used the human body to explain that civil society and government are cells of the same organism with similar constituent elements which interact but have different roles. It was mentioned that in order for progress to be achieved in eradicating poverty and implementing the SDGs, short term 'necessities' may need to be sacrificed for long term relationships. Mr Perell continued that lasting progress cannot be achieved if there is no trust between the actors. Once a shared vision of the common challenges and common humanity is reached, it is much easier to engage with each other as government, civil society and private sector.

Recommendations

- Currently, Nigeria involves youth organizations, youth corps members, women organizations, CSOs, NGO and a Private Sector Advisory Group in consultation with the government.

Improving the Online Participation of the General Public at UN Events

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ali Maurice (President, IAIJ)

Sponsored by

- International Association of Independent Journalists (IAIJ)

Objectives

The aim of this side event was to propose that the general public of the world participate at the United Nations through a phone application in order to make the UN more accessible. The IAIJ has extensively researched what a public vote would achieve at the United Nations; mainly that it would allow for more equality and enable Member States and UN agencies to hear directly from the people what their needs are. By introducing this idea to the UN at CSocD55, IAIJ hopes to increase online participation at the UN and found that many citizens all over the world support their efforts to have a clearer voice.



Key Messages

- There are provisions in the UN Charter that support the need for, and the right of, the general public of the world to participate in events at the UN.
- IAIJ's reports 'The Issue of Permanent Ongoing Participation of the General Public at the United Nations' and 'A Positive Major Mandate for Humanity at the United Nations' provide important information on this topic.
- There is room at the UN for more public interaction, as highlighted in the report published by the IAIJ

Recommendations

- An app, already designed and produced, could bring the general public into the decision room at the UN.
- Using the internet and digital media is a way of bringing people together and can lead to targeting global issues collectively.
- By allowing the general public to have a voice and a vote at the UN, the issues of the people can be addressed more substantively and inclusively. This means that poverty eradication policies and climate change policies could begin at the grassroots level of certain areas of the world.

Promoting Equal Access to Mental Health Resources for All Ages

DISABILITY

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Dr. Rachel Ravich (Moderator)
- Mr. Werner Obermeyer (Deputy Executive Director, World Health Organization Office at the United Nations)
- Dr. Stefan Peterson Associate (Director and Chief Health Section United Nations Children ' s Fund)
- Dr. Toni Antonucci (Professor of Psychology, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan)
- Dr. Lena Verdeli (Russel Sage Foundation Fellow, Associate Professor and Director of Global Mental Health Teachers College, Columbia University)

Sponsored by

- Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues



Objectives

Mental health disorders are increasing around the globe; in the context of humanitarian action, 1 in 5 people are affected by depression and have little available treatment. The objective of this event was to discuss high level and grassroots approaches to addressing the mental health and wellbeing of people in both low and high income countries as well as in refugee situations.

Key Messages

- The world is moving forward in addressing mental ill-health. Strategies have been developed and are being implemented. More information is available now about what works and how best to proceed. The biggest barrier to mental health is the social stigma.
- Dr. Peterson of UNICEF discussed the heavy burden on children that results from depression and other mental health difficulties.
- Focusing on the situation of older persons, Dr. Antonucci spoke about the economic burden that depression places on society, and the connection between mental ill-health, poverty and stigmatization.

Recommendations

- More must be done to decrease stigma and improve mental health for all.
- The Deputy Executive Director of the WHO Mr. Obermeyer, introduced two key documents created by the WHO: the Mental Health Action Plan and the Mental Health Atlas. These documents set out concrete steps and strategies for improving mental health for people around the world.
- There is a need for community based interventions that utilize social resources, not just medical ones.
- Dr. Verdeli of Columbia University highlighted the work of several successful initiatives operating in various conflict areas around the world that provide early intervention for children with PTSD. She noted that interventions must be placed at the family, community, peer and school levels in order to maximize access and success.

Decent Work as the Most Important Strategy for Poverty Eradication

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mary O'Neill Berry (Moderator, NGO Representative for International Association of Applied Psychology, IAAP)
- Walter Reichman (Moderator, OrgVitality)
- Molefe Maleka (Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa)
- Peter R. Walker (NGO Representative for International Council of Psychologists (ICP) and Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI))
- Virginia Schein (Professor Emerita of Psychology, Gettysburg College)
- Mathian Osicki (IBM Cloud of BTL Partner, IBM)
- Susanne Bruyere (Professor of Disability Studies, Cornell University)

Sponsored by

- International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP)

Objectives

To present several examples of decent work from around the world that could be used as best practices. Five presentations were given (1) Partnerships to Foster Living Wages: Project GLOW (Global Living Organisational Wage); (2) Climate Change and Employment: Building Sustainable Resilience; (3) Decent Work, Not Just a Job as the Pathway Out of Poverty: Voices of Low-Income Women in Nicaragua; (4) Humanitarian Work Psychology's Contributions to Poverty and Morality Eradication; and (5) Employer Practices to Improve Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Disabilities.

Key Messages

- 'Working' poverty has become a major issue of our time. Minimum wages are falling worldwide and living wages are an aspirational goal. Partnerships between communities, NGOs, employers, labour and research networks have the potential to close the gap, and make a social and business case for societal change.
- Asia and Africa are particularly vulnerable to climate change and they also fall short in meeting decent job standards. Climate adaptation efforts could be a means of creating employment opportunities in these regions. Investing in 'green jobs' is an investment in climate adoption and disaster risk reduction as well employment and poverty reduction among the most vulnerable regions and populations.
- Almost one third of the extreme and moderate poor in developing countries do have a 'job'; research shows it is the 'indecent work' aspect such as substandard wages and poor working conditions that keep them in poverty. Income opportunities more in line with the characteristics of decent work can serve as a pathway out of poverty for women and communities in general.
- Businesses can play an important role in eradicating poverty. Through the use of a leadership development programme titled 'Corporate Services Corps' (CSC) IBM was able to help the Cross River State of Nigeria reduce child mortality and improve the well-being of the most underprivileged parts of the state.
- Disability increases the risk of poverty and vice versa. Across the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries, 22% of households with a person with a disability live below poverty threshold, compared to 14% for



non-disabled. Addressing disability poverty issues is an economic and workforce development issue, which requires collaboration across many stakeholders to effectively address these critical issues.

Recommendations

- The Commission should use the term "Living Wage" rather than "Minimum Wage" as the goal for eliminating poverty since the minimum wage keeps many people in poverty.
- Research is needed to determine the point at which a company can both pay a living wage and maintain its viability as a business.
- The Commission should issue a primer on climate change and its causes. The Commission should also recognise that people will lose their jobs and livelihoods as a consequence of the transition from jobs that pollute to green jobs. Creative and innovative solutions must be developed to keep these people out of poverty.
- The Commission should develop procedures to unite women into groups to deal with issues that impact their lives and to bring about change in their own economy. It is recommended that the Commission begin this process by advocating the development of groups of girls while still in school.
- The Commission should advocate the involvement of business in the accomplishment of the SDGs by promoting Corporate Social Responsibility and uniting businesses in a plan going forward based on the triple bottom line of business success; profit, people and planet.
- National and international disability strategies and action plans should be adopted and people with disabilities must be part of the conversation. The Commission should advocate for the disaggregation of disability when collecting data on SDG indicators.

Fighting Poverty: A Case for Investing in Family Oriented Policies and Programmes

FAMILY

4:45 PM – 6:00 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ms. Renata Kaczmarkska (Moderator, UN Focal Point on the Family, UNDESA DSPD)
- H.E. Ms. Sheikha Alya Al-Thani (Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations)
- Dr. Anis Ben Brik (Director, Family Policy Division, Doha International Family Institute)
- Prof. Lawrence M. Mead (New York University Department of Politics)
- Prof. Jill Duerr Berrick (The Zellerbach Family Foundation Professor at the School of Social Welfare at the University of California, Berkeley)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations



Objectives

The event aimed to share expert insights on mainstreaming family perspective in poverty eradication and social protection policies and strategies, by way of contributing to the achievement of SDG 1, no poverty. Experts also shared Arab regional perspectives, and provided evidence and best practices of family perspective in the poverty eradication policies and strategies.

Key Messages

- Family is a key unit of society.
- Poverty is an assault to the caregiving system; it causes anxiety, depression, harsh parenting practices, fear, and strained and violent relationships.
- Supporting future generations through family is essential in the fight against poverty because it will help break the poverty cycle.
- Families and children living in poverty face many challenges: high youth unemployment; limited access to water and sanitation; high child mortality rate; illiteracy; and rise of inequality.
- Extreme poverty threatens children's survival and cognitive and developmental deficits.

Recommendations

- Investing in family programmes that aim to achieve poverty eradication will be beneficial not only for families but also for communities and societies.
- There is immediate need to find better strategies that stop intergenerational poverty, therefore strategies need to focus on all generations; children youth, adults and older persons.

Leaving No Child Behind: Promoting Youth Inclusion through Quality Education for All

FAMILY

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 7, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ignacio Socias (Moderator, Director International Relations of IFFD)
- Mr. Abdelrahman Al-Hamadi (Deputy Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations)
- Mario Armella (World President of the International Federation for Family Development)
- Maissa Shawky (Deputy Minister of Health and Population of Egypt)
- Kinga Joo (Member of the European Economic and Social Committee)
- Roberto Ciambetti (President of the Consiglio Regionale del Veneto)
- Donna Butts (Executive Director of Generations United)
- Michael Farrugia (Minister of the Family and social Solidarity of Malta)

Sponsored by

- International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)
- Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Malawi to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Zambia to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Botswana to the United Nations; Representative from the Government of Malta; Representative from the Government of Malaysia; Representative from the Government of Egypt; Representative from the Government of Kenya

Objective(s)

This event aimed to promote qualitative child education as a means of raising children to be healthy and responsible citizens.

Key Messages

- Family empowerment and environmental considerations are important aspects of providing diverse multi-dimensional support to children, for example: ecological and psychological aspects of child development; raising household income; invention of more resources through partnership; and gaining knowledge of lessons and educational initiatives from other countries experiences.



Recommendations

- Protect the incomes of households with the poorest children to ensure quality education.
- Focus on improving the educational achievements of disadvantaged learners.
- Promote and support healthy lifestyles for all children.
- Take subjective well-being seriously.
- Place equity at the heart of child well-being agendas.
- Improve the availability, timeliness and usefulness of information about the education and well-being of children in rich countries.
- Data sets should track children through different stages of their learning process.
- Children's voices should be built into data-collection processes.

Early Parenting and Early Childhood Care and Education to Address the Inter-generational Dimension of Poverty: the Childhood and Early Parenting Principles (CEPPs) Global Initiative

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Renata Kaczmarek (Moderator, UN Focal Point on the Family, UNDESA DSPD)
- Dr. Rima Salah (Assistant Clinical Professor, Child Study Center, Yale University)
- Sandra Bardsley (President of APPPAH)
- Sara Watson (Global Director, ReadyNation International)
- Valerie Unite (CEPPs Executive Director)

Sponsored by

- Make Mothers Matter

Objectives

To raise awareness of how special attention in early childhood development from pregnancy to year three and supporting pre and early parenting could help every child reach their full potential. This could break the intergenerational cycle of poverty and create fairer and more peaceful societies.

Key Messages

- Neuroscience tells us that poor early parenting and early child care (between pregnancy and age three i.e. the 'critical years') can have a lifelong negative impact on a child's mental and emotional health and affect their physical, social and intellectual development.
- The prenatal period is also key; parenting begins at conception, and education and support for mothers and fathers in their caregiving role should begin during pregnancy.
- Global business can support early child care education by providing financial and human resources, promoting family-friendly policies and information and advocating for local, national, international policy change.
- Given how children are cared for and nurtured can affect present and future generations, supporting children and families has the potential to break the intergenerational dimension of poverty.



Recommendations

- Four organisations - 1001 critical days initiative, APPAH, ISPPM and MMM - have decided to work together to develop the Childhood and Early Parenting Principles (CEPPs).
- CEPPs is a global initiative with the aim of educating and supporting parents and other caregivers in skilled early parenting and nurturing care during pregnancy and early childhood, through a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectorial mobilization and engagement with governments at all levels. CEPPs can work bottom-up, city-by-city to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, including SDG 1 (no poverty).

Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development

FAMILY

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Sylvester Sede (BEFA Women and Child Care Foundation/Mandela Washington Fellowship Alumni Association, Nigeria Chapter)

Sponsored by

- BEFA Women and Child Care Foundation

Objectives

To develop strategies on poverty eradication in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Key Messages

- The role of women can be amplified with support from men.
- Small businesswomen who struggle to feed their families can do better with support from the men in the society and the government.
- NGOs can empower more youths and women if they work in partnership and unity.

Recommendations

- Harnessing women's potential is an effective poverty eradication strategy.
- Promoting female rights to education especially in rural communities is essential.
- Promoting partnership among NGOs working in similar areas of societal need will be beneficial.
- There must be increased dialogue with communities in order to increase women's access to land. This will encourage women to become involved in agriculture and will also provide them with access to up to date farming technology. In the long term this will increase yields.
- It is recommended that there is an increase in government partnership and involvement with CSOs, CBOs and local NGOs who work in areas of social entrepreneurship and business empowerment.

Early Childhood Development as a Strategy to Eradicate Poverty and Reduce Inequalities in a Migration and Refugee Context

FAMILY

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room A, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Professor Eva Richter (Moderator, UN Representative for the Poverty Elimination and Community Education (PEACE) Foundation and Co-founder and Treasurer of the NGO Committee on Migration)
- H.E. Mr Oliver Maes (Deputy Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations)
- Dr Jimena Leiva Roesch (Senior Policy Analyst, International Peace Institute New York)
- Dr Rima Salah (Chair of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) and Adjunct Faculty Member at the Child Study Center, Yale University)
- Sr. Winifried Doherty (RGS, UN Representative, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd)

Sponsored by

- World Organisation for Early Childhood Education

Member State(s) Present

Permanent Mission of Luxembourg to the United Nations

Objectives

To illustrate why early childhood development (ECD) is so important and effective as a poverty eradication strategy.

Key Messages

- Growing numbers of refugees, internally displaced and migrant children are at the centre of the world's population movements, yet their needs have been severely neglected. Without appropriate interventions displaced children experience high levels of toxic stress, almost always leading to short-term and/or long-term impairments in health, development and capacity to contribute to society.
- The side event brought attention to the existing 'small miracles in the midst of inhumanity' with the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd leading by example. The event also emphasised the need to consider what the SDGs really mean for local communities when developing ECD policies, keeping in mind that the SDGs are all connected and that children and migrants are cross-cutting issues throughout the 2030 Agenda.
- There is a link between investing in the early years and living and building sustainable peaceful societies and communities. ECD is an entry point; it will empower parents and strengthen their role in investing in their children.
- Triumph is the rise of civil society themselves; when people are listened to, they make a transition from victims to agents of change.
- It is essential to burst the UN New York bubble and make stronger the connection between the UN global and community local.
- There is no better time to work together and although we face many problems and challenges, optimism and positivity about the future are needed so much.



Recommendations

- Member states must invest in children; without tailored, sustainable, inclusive development and education programmes for children and their caregivers in humanitarian and other crisis situations, the SDGs targets will not be met.
- Such investment could take many forms, for example: collecting, analysing and sharing disaggregated data about displaced and refugee children by age, gender, country of origin, education, citizenship status, ability/ disability and other relevant factors; including refugee and migrant population in poverty statistics, in order to inform national policy planning; protecting the youngest children (birth to five) at high risk of trauma related to disruptions; and acknowledging that the cost of expanding ECD programmes and services is far outweighed by benefits, including long-term financial yield on investment.

Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families

FAMILY

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mario Armella (Moderator, World President of IFFD)
- Dr. Siti Norlaslah Binti Ismail (Director General of the National Population and Family Development Board of Malaysia)
- H.E. Roberto Ciambetti (President of the Consiglio Regionale del Veneto, Italy)
- H.E. Michael Farrugia (Minister of Family and Social Solidarity of Malta)
- Daniela Bas (Director, UNDESA DSPD)

Sponsored by

- International Federation for Family Development (IFFD)
- UNDESA DSPD

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Botswana to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations; Government Representative of Malta; Government Representative of Malaysia; Government Representative of Czech Republic; Government Representative of Turkey; Government Representative of El Salvador; Regional Authority of Italy

Objectives

The objective of the event was to discuss three interrelated questions: firstly, how can the dialogue among government, civil society, residents and the private sector about the New Urban Agenda be improved; secondly, what is the role of families in the achievement of SDG 11, which aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and thirdly, how can families be provided with adequate tools for strengthening their ability to reach their potential?

Key Messages

- Sustainable cities start and end with cohesive and inclusive families. Building cities that “work” –inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable– requires intensive policy coordination and investment choices.
- National and local governments have an important role to play to take action now, to shape the future of their development and to create opportunities for all, so that no one will be left behind.
- The success of the 2030 agenda depends on how well families are empowered.
- The cities of tomorrow should be more family friendly. They should be inclusive and accessible for everyone with special needs.
- We should keep working together to make sure our cities are inclusive, sustainable and bring peace and prosperity.



Recommendations

- Malaysia's National Family Policy contains several implementation strategies such as research and development, advocacy, training and education, consultation and strategic partnership, and monitoring and evaluation.
- The Italian initiative 'Alliance for Families', a local network of authorities that support family centres aims to build a coherent inclusive model in connection with local, national, European, and UN objectives to empower families. It resulted in an inclusive system of community welfare.
- Malta's has taken a number of measures focussing on helping individuals empower themselves. Family friendly measures include free day-care for working families and community centres to help build life skills and support to find employment.

Poverty Eradication through Education with Special Reference to Indigenous Peoples

INDIGINEOUS PEOPLES

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mr. Suraj Roy (Deputy Director, Resource Mobilisation, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar, Odisha)
- Mr. Kadey Soren (Deputy Director, Academics, Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar,

Sponsored by

- Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences

Objectives

To outline the educational issues and concerns that the indigenous population in India are currently facing and to provide an overview of the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), which works with over 25,000 Young

Key Messages

- The education system in India is currently designed for the dominant group. Therefore, there is a need to create support mechanisms that include indigenous children in the formal education system.
- Indigenous education has to be needs-based and demand-based. The regular schooling system is alien to indigenous children and therefore indigenous language is very important for progress, along with creating indigenous teaching and learning materials.
- The indigenous community needs to participate in the education system.
- Preservation of Indigenous knowledge and culture has to be incorporated into the curriculum, such as knowledge on herbal medicine, cropping patterns, crop varieties and flora and fauna.
- Skills development and vocational training are also crucial as it will increase employment to support economic sustainability of Indigenous people.
- 'Economic cushioning' is required for indigenous children to reach higher education; empirical evidence shows that an Indigenous child often has to contribute to family income which leads to high school dropout rates.
- Free schooling, boarding, food and health care will enable indigenous children to flourish without dependency on their families.
- Indigenous students should be made aware of their rights through education; they should be exposed to government policies, corporate social responsibility and other avenues for their development and social justice.

Recommendations

- Education has to be residential in nature in order to overcome the geographic isolation of Indigenous peoples.
- The residential school system addresses the issue of malnourishment by providing a balanced diet for poor indigenous children.
- Education has to be needs-based; schooling has to be holistic, integrated, inclusive and sustainable.



Eradicating Poverty: Achieving Global Peace for Sustainable Development

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ambassador Guy Djoken (Moderator, Chairman U.S Federation for UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations)
- Lady Agodichinma Onyeaso (Moderator, Director, Ministry of Education, Nigeria)
- Dr. Ada Okika (Executive Director)
- His Eminence Zaeem Sheikh Abdul Wadudu Haruna (National President, Tijaniya Muslim of Ghana/Chancellor Emeritus, UNESCO Center for Global Education, New York)
- Dr. Kim (President World Peace Medical Service Corp)
- HRH King Joseph Dubois (Chairman J.O.S.E.P.H. Global Group Alliances/ Board Chair, UNESCO Center for Global Education)
- Ra'Amari (Youth Ambassador Trademark and Trust)
- Amit Singh (Co-Founder/ Director of International Affair, Divy-abhumi Multiple Collage (Tribhuwan University, Kathmandu, Nepal)
- Amb. Daboya T. Djisso (Executive Chair, UNESCO Centre for Global Education)
- Ms. Antoinette Pitcan (President, GCUED)
- Bishop Dr. Ebony Kirkland (President, Worldwide Association of Small Churches)
- Dr. Emmanuel Aniemeka (Consultant Central Bank of Nigeria Entrepreneurship Development Center, Nigeria)
- Professor Alan Saunders (Education Advisor, UNESCO Center for Global Education)
- Dr. Monica Sanchez (Director, Cultural Diversity)

Objectives

To elucidate the place and role of peace and conflict aversion on the poverty eradication discourse of the 2030 Agenda.

Key Messages

- Poverty is a major concern within the 2030 Agenda as it affects all human growth and development.
- War and conflict derail economic, national and human development.
- Eradicating poverty is an important vehicle for achieving global peace.

Recommendations

- There must be a focus on how to create innovative solutions with best practices and the skills to ignite action in overcoming poverty at all levels and among groups.
- The Commission for Social Development ensures full inclusion of cultural protection systems, as well as cultural norms and values, as part of its commitment to building an inclusive peaceful society free from poverty.



Sponsored by

- UNESCO Centre for Global Education
- Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry Inc.

- The Commission should advocate for the promotion of peace among ages, groups and agencies at all levels through HUG4PEACE campaigns.
- The Commission should encourage Member States, relevant regional organizations and agencies, to research and promote development programs and policies aimed at poverty eradication, education and decent work.
- Culture and peace education should be included in the school curriculum.
- Charity (material as well as social support) is an important community-based mission of most religions, is instrumental for reaching the poorest of the poor, including the pockets of poverty in the developed world.
- Civil society and stakeholders who are advocates of peace should inspire inclusive dialogue on harmonious living and abolition of poverty in commitment to HUG4PEACE global movements.

Defence of Land and Water as a Strategy to Eradicate Poverty

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Nicolas Anton (Moderator, Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America)
- Rev. Nicholas Barla (Human Rights Defender, VIVAT International)
- Rev. Paul Pezzi (Expert on Land Grabbing)
- Christina Hioureas (Foley Hoag LLP, Chair of United Nations Working Group)

Sponsored by

- Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations;
Permanent Mission of Tuvalu to the United Nations;
Permanent Mission of Kiribati to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations



Objectives

To highlight the impact of the extractive industries and land-grabbing on the earth and local communities, particularly indigenous communities, as well as share best practices from local communities on defending their rights to land and water. The panellists linked those rendered poor due to displacement and the need for economic empowerment by addressing the inequalities these communities face by implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda.

Key Messages

- Poverty manifests when human rights are denied. The most sinister form of this emerges through land and water grabbing by the extractive industries. Land and water defenders have protested this form of violence towards human rights, taking action to highlight this injustice against the earth and the community.
- Land grabbing is not a new phenomenon. At least 50 million hectares of agricultural land around the world, especially in Africa, have “changed hands” during the last decade.
- Land grabbing directly affects food security and access to water in most regions.

Recommendations

- There needs to be greater cooperation with government and transparency.
- Systems that protect lands need to be strengthened.
- There is a need to create and implement universal and compulsory laws (not voluntary).
- There should be capacity building trainings for landowners and lawyers on the existing treaties, laws and regulations.
- The legal representative of the Mission of Peru suggested reform of the investor dispute system by introducing a permanent International Tribunal for Investments to protect land owners from land grabbing.

Education for Global Citizenship in Eradicating Poverty: A Crowdsourced Conversation

POVERTY

11:15 AM – 1:15 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- H.E. Ambassador Hahn (Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the UN)
- Mr. Maxwell Haywood (Focal Point on Cooperatives, UNDESA DSPD)

Sponsored by

- Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Loreto Generalate

Objectives

- To explore how global citizenship interfaces with all aspects of the SDGs in the process of eliminating poverty
- To allow for fluid interaction among attendees, the side event seeks to address, through conversation, the importance of global citizenship and its conceptual underpinnings, in eradicating systemic poverty on a global scale
- To provide breakout sessions for reflection on questions based on the statement submitted on behalf of the Coalition for Global Citizenship 2030 to CSocD
- To generate input for ongoing discussions of the Coalition for Global Citizenship 2030.

Key Messages

- The idea that some lives matter less is an urgent cry to consider the oneness of humanity, the interconnection with spiritual impoverishment and global connectedness all around us.
- Global citizenship presupposes fundamental aspects of human interaction such as the recognition of human dignity and the diversity of relationships. It includes relationships with people englobing cultural diversity and is a deterrent to violent extremism.
- Global citizenship and SDG 1 (poverty eradication) are not just about richness or resource abundance; the Spiritual Model of Poverty also needs to be addressed. Spiritual poverty comes from deprivation and problems of inequality.
- The concept of global citizenship fits well with the future Agenda of the United Nations. There is no peace without sustainable development and there is no sustainable development without peace.

Recommendations

- The success of the 2030 Agenda requires that the theme of global citizenship gains more attention. Without a shift in thinking, we still will have extreme poverty in 15 years.
- The Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary is committed to working towards advancing the concept of global citizenship within the UN Agenda. There is a need for robust data in this endeavour.
- The 66th UN DPI/NGO Conference on Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together, was a decisive point in mapping the way forward.



Combatting Inequalities to End Poverty

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Daniela Bas (Moderator, Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA)
- Ms. Nada Al-Nashif (Assistant Director-General, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO)
- Dr. Ndri Assie-Lumumba (Member of MOST Scientific Advisory Committee, Professor at Cornell University, NY Member of the Scientific Committee of CODESRIA)
- Cesar Alierta (Global Advisor of the UN's SDG Fund for Digital Education and Sustainable Development)

Sponsored by

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – Management of Social Transformation (UNESCO – MOST)
- UNDESA DSPD

Objectives

To bring together experts and actors in the development field to discuss the link between inequalities and poverty, how addressing inequality in all its dimensions is a key strategy to reduce poverty and how the social science community could effectively contribute to the policy making process in this area through including the key messages from the World Social Science Report “Challenging Inequalities: Pathways to a Just World”.

Key Messages

- Inclusion is an important means of combatting inequality.
- The speakers each presented their ideas on inclusion and poverty eradication and agreed that trickle-down economics has been refuted and prosperity is only shared when society has fair institutions, therefore stressing inclusion as a foundation of economic success.
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) latest report Time for Equality talks about ‘inequalities of opportunity’ such as access to health and education, and those based on gender, ethnicity, race or religion, age and disability.
- Given that people are now acutely aware of inequalities across borders thanks to television, internet and social media, we need to also consider the artificial borders because they too foster inequality.



Recommendations

- In this ongoing digital revolution, education about media and technology will be instrumental in inclusion.
- Member States, with UN partners, academic and civil society stakeholders, need to: identify critical knowledge gaps and respond to them with a global, multidisciplinary research agenda; document trends in inequality in all world regions, especially less well-researched and low-income countries in Africa and Asia; analyse the consequences of inequalities in different countries and regions and for different groups of people; and identify strategies to reduce inequalities and support national action to implement them.
- Advancing collective well-being and closely monitoring trends in inequality is also recommended.

Using Legal Mechanisms to Assist in Poverty Eradication

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 7, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Denise Scotto, Esq. (Moderator, International Federation of Women in Legal Careers (FIFCI) and International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA))
- Winifred Dougherty (Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd)
- Cristina Diez (ATD 4th World Movement)

Sponsored by

- International Federation of Women in Legal Careers



Objectives

To discuss noteworthy legal mechanisms in poverty eradication and the importance of using legal mechanisms at the international, regional and national levels including the community level, and to illustrate that implementation of law needs political will, resource allocation and a multi-disciplinary approach.

Key Messages

- The law is an important tool for positive change yet people must know about law and understand their rights as well as have access to justice engaging in either formal or informal mechanisms or both. The law cannot be used in isolation but needs to be implemented with partners from other disciplines.

Recommendations

- Various concrete examples from Canada, France and Guatemala were discussed, demonstrating how the core obligations of a government to its citizens is to enable its citizens to live a decent life with housing, food, education, medicine, decent work, social protections, etc.

Russian Solutions for the World: Technologies, Methods and Ways of Sustainable Development Management. Theory and Practice

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Larisa Zelentsova (Moderator, President of the Interregional Public Charitable Organisation of Assistance to Persons with Disabilities 'Sail of Hope')
- Yurt Alekseev (Corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, Professor, Department of Social Innovation of Kazakhstan Institute of Information Technology and Management, member of the British Academy of Business, member of the Russian-Italian Council for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development, Moscow, Russia)
- Vyacheslav Bykov (PhD, WHO representative, Moscow, Russia)
- Dr. Dmitry Abrosimov (PhD, WHO representative, Moscow, Russia)
- Marina Brilka (Specialist degree International Economic Cooperation, Master's degree in Finance Investment, London School of Business and Finance, Irkutsk, Russia)
- Sergey Stepanov (President of International Organisation for Economic Cooperation "GEMMA", Novosibirsk, Russia)
- Stepan Alekseev (Deputy Director of 'Sail of Hope' Youth Department, Moscow, Russia)
- Viktoria Semenovich (Director of Youth Department, Ekaterinburg, Russia)
- Ali Almussa (Ambassador of Peace, Director General of Bee-loops Company, Moscow, Russia)
- Ingrida Nevenchannaya (Journalist, Ambassador of Peace, the Owner of Medal of Peacemaker Alliance, Moscow, Russia)

Key Messages

- Poverty, locally and globally, is not only the result of economic problems but of the complex challenges facing the globe such as climate change, the threat of nuclear war and conflict.
- The global community can find appropriate responses to these challenges only by giving up 'globalization without social justice' in favour of 'globalization with a human face', meaning globalization based on the principles of cooperation and mutual assistance in the interests of all mankind.
- This transition requires close cooperation between government, civil society, scientists and experts, in order to create innovative solutions and implement them, based on the structured and capacities of the United Nations and other International Organisations.

Recommendations

- The Commission should consider a dynamic model of inter-branch-inter-sectoral balance, as well as management of the strategic development of territories, as part of the implementation of SDG 1 (end poverty).



Sponsored by

- Sail of Hope

Objectives

To demonstrate the important role of Russian technologies, methods and ways of sustainable development management in the implementation of SDG 1 (poverty eradication), with reference to the development of problematic territories.

of the management programme include reducing the gap between rich and poor, increasing financial viability of territories, and citizen empowerment. 'Modern Innovation Strategy' uses technology to sterilize food and industrial products to maintain sustainable development and ensure the safe processing, transportation, storage and use of food and industrial products.

- 'Start in Life for a Young Man: the World for Self-Realisation of Young People' promotes the creation of a modern system of education and information support for youth based on new digital technologies.
- 'Program of Fertility Restoration' (the OASIS Program) solves the problem of fertile soil creation through the use of products made from organic and mineral raw materials (peat, sapropel, glauconite, etc.), and proprietary technologies.
- The environmental program 'Green Force' eliminated heavy pollution with petroleum products and other toxic substances, recycling, and disposal of oily waste, cleanup of soil, groundwater, and water bodies on the basis of unique technologies.

10 Solutions to Poverty You May Be Ignoring

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Rudi Bester (CEO Memory Trees Corporation)
- Reece Bester (Director Projects, Memory Trees Corporation)
- Debbie Lee (Executive Director, Memory Trees Corporation)

Sponsored by

- Memory Trees Corporation

Objectives

To deliver hands-on experience and best practices related to social benefit programmes and innovative strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all.



Key Messages

- Even though literacy levels worldwide reach 80%, impoverished populations lack access to education and therefore are not equipped with the necessary skills/knowledge to better their livelihood.
- Sustainable food is the key to achieving long-term solutions.
- Empowering communities and individuals to work towards projects/ start-ups that aim to support their communities are crucial.
- Low income individuals are capable of lifting themselves out of poverty if given access to financial services.
- Self-sufficiency is key to sustainability.
- Empowering women is essential.
- Food donations are important, mainly as an emergency relief strategy.
- The key to solving any problem is working on the ground level, building inclusive communities and community hubs where all voices are heard.
- Urban farming should be included in poverty eradication strategies.
- Better engagement, providing access to resources, stronger connections and stronger programmes are needed to improve public-private collaboration.
- Think global but focus on acting local.

Recommendations

- Governments should conceptualise and implement social protection projects in collaboration with civil society.
- Co-create a strategy to dynamically move from poverty eradication to poverty prevention.
- Collaborate with civil society to secure funding for projects that strive to eradicate poverty.

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 5, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Dr. Sergei Zelenev (Moderator, Executive Director, International Council on Social Welfare)
- Mr. Vilbard Usiku (Employment Equity Commissioner of the Republic of Namibia)
- Dr. Paul Ladd (Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD))
- Professor Lynn Healy (the International Association of Schools of Social Work)
- Mr. Ronald Wiman (Chief Expert, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland)
- Professor Rebecca Davis (Director, Center for Global Social Work, Rutgers University, USA)
- Ms. Cecilie Golden (Programme Specialist, UNESCO)

Sponsored by

- International Council on Social Welfare; Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations

Objectives

To highlight the compatibility of poverty eradication efforts and environmentally friendly policies, as well as existing opportunities and challenges.. It is widely recognized that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions represents not only the greatest global challenge but also an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. Fighting poverty and building resilience to economic, social and environmental shocks are key tasks on the road to sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Key Messages

- Poverty eradication ensures a basic standard of living for all and facilitates efforts aimed at preventing environmental degradation.
- Advancing sustainable development and eradicating poverty requires the combination of policy efforts on all fronts, including the education sector.
- People and the planet must be prioritized. Less powerful stakeholders should be allowed to have voice and influence.
- The impact of the lack of environmental policy protections on the well-being of people living in poverty is visible in the exacerbation of poverty, such as lack of access to water and sanitation and greater susceptibility to disease.
- Those living in poverty are highly vulnerable to climate-change and have fewer options in crisis situations.
- Environmental issues must no longer be seen as peripheral or impacting externally on societies; environmental change is interconnected with a multitude of other crises. The social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development form a single agenda.
- The 5th National Development Plan of Namibia addresses the needs of vulnerable groups and prevention strategies

regarding the devastating impact of climate change.

Recommendations

- There is a need to catalyze processes of change that result in transformation in all three dimensions of the 2030 Agenda: economic, environmental and social. In the context of the indispensable “eco-social turn”, responses to the call for a global partnership must go beyond current approaches to public-private partnerships and participation.
- Moving forward should involve changing the narrative from environment or development to environment and development as complementary and achievable.
- Finland is proud of its multiple achievements; Finnish people see sustainability efforts as a crucial policy objective and supports the quest for policy shifts towards greater consideration of ecological and social objectives.
- Teaching of the 2030 Agenda should raise awareness and promote advocacy and practice, with a sufficient level of knowledge of all three areas. There is a clear need to develop curriculum and teach the SDG’s linking sustainable environment and economic security.
- Understanding and responding to climate change requires strong input from the social and human sciences.



Sustainable Transport as a Strategy for the Eradication of Poverty with a Focus on Inland Transport and Employment Generation

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Professor Kurt Bodewig (Moderator, President Baltic Sea Forum)
- H.E. Juergen Schulz (Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations)
- Daniela Bas (Director, UNDESA, DSPD)
- Dr. Patrick Ho Chi Ping (Deputy Chairman, Secretary General of China Energy Fund Committee)
- Gunnar Platz (PLANCO Consulting GmbH)
- Stefan Breitenbach (Port of Hamburg Marketing Reg. Assoc., Lead Partner of the Baltic Sea Region Programme EMMA)
- H.E. Raimonda Murmokaitė (Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations)

Sponsored by

- Baltic Sea Forum; UNDESA DSPD

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations;
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Lithuania

Objectives

To showcase the connection between sustainable transport and poverty eradication via financially feasible transport structures and employment generation that boost social and sustainable development. In order to reach SDG 1 (poverty eradication), cooperation between governments, business, finance, economy and civil society is necessary to ensure that no-one is left behind. Reviving and expanding existing structures such as inland waterways and rail transport will create jobs and provide access to working places which can result in stable income and long term prosperity. By focusing on waterways and rail transportation and investing in new green technologies, transport infrastructure can become a key factor in achieving environmental sustainability.

Key Messages

- In order to achieve the 2030 Agenda, the world needs to take an accelerated approach to economic and social development. This will result in an increased demand for transport services and infrastructure.
- Stronger regional cooperation and the creation of more competitive transport solutions can increase economic development and support efforts to reduce poverty.
- Efficient transport solutions such as inland shipping need to play an important role in the transport mix to support competitiveness and sustainability.



UN Agency Present

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

Recommendations

- Three main areas need to be addressed: inclusive and fair access to services; economic prosperity for all people and regions; and environmental responsibility.
- A long-term approach is essential to address future challenges such as climate change. This will require utilizing new, sustainable technologies and taking into account scientific facts and projections.
- Immediate efforts towards achieving a sustainable transportation system must be taken (for a definition see the Bogota Declaration).
- The Baltic Sea Region cooperation project EMMA is a best practice example of how sustainable transport solutions support economic and social development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Read more here: <http://project-emma.eu/>

A Human Dignity and Faith Perspective on the Eradication of Poverty for the Incarcerated Population of the World

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 5, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Hans Hallundbaek (Moderator, NGO representative to the UN for IPCA and CURE)
- H.E. Ib Petersen (Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations)
- Dr. Anita Lightburn (Director of the Beck Institute, Fordham University)
- Dr. Robert McCrie (Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice)
- Dr. Baz Dreisinger (Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and author of the newly-released Incarceration Nations)
- Rev. Jean Didier-Mboyo (Vice President of IPCA)
- Marta Nelson (Executive Director, New York State Council on Community Re-entry and Reintegration)
- Rev. Petero Sabune (Director of the New York Theological Seminary Master's Program at Sing Sing Prison, NY)
- Rev. Dr. Jill Schaeffer (Professor of Ethics at New York Theological Seminary)
- Charles Sullivan (President of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE))
- Katherine Vockins (Executive Director of Rehabilitation Through the Arts)

Objectives

The objective of this event was to bring attention to the prison cause, to the relationship between poverty and the increased incidence of being imprisoned and to encourage reformatory efforts.

Key Messages

- The inherent dignity of all prisoners must be respected.
- The cost of poverty, including the multitudes of men, women and youth incarcerated in prisons, jails and detention centres throughout the world is too high.
- A large portion of the incarcerated population is composed of marginal or outcast members of a country's populace.
- There is evidence that challenges the principle that imprisonment is a successful way to solve the problem of crime in every society.

Recommendations

- One of the strategies necessary to eradicate poverty is to raise awareness of the costs of poverty, both in society and in the prison system.



Sponsored by

- International Prison Chaplains Association (IPCA)
- Cure International
- Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations

- An increasing number of people are fleeing from their home countries due to war, terrorism, persecution and poverty to seek asylum in the safer countries of the world. The use of detention facilities for refugees and migrants should be challenged.
- The rejection of military service is a human right; conscientious objectors should be supported.
- The Mandela Rules should be applied in all countries.
- IPCA has 2000 prison Chaplains in more than fifty countries. These Chaplains assist in educating the public in their local communities. They also organize global conferences for training of its members and for public awareness-raising on prison-related issues.
- CURE is an international grassroots effort by people in prison, their families and concerned citizens to reduce crime through legislative criminal justice reform.
- Governments, churches and faith communities should move away from the philosophy of retributive justice and encourage restorative justice strategies.
- Prison administrators, governors and staff must always carry out their duties with integrity, humanity, justice and care.

Poverty Eradication through Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration: The Case of Mexico

POVERTY

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Karol Arambula (Moderator, International Liaison Mayama A.C.)
- Representative from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations
- Carlos Mendieta Zeron (Head of Sustainability, Petstar)

Sponsored by

- Mayama A.C.

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations

Objectives

To deepen analysis on partnership-building to develop stronger strategies to eliminate multidimensional poverty through the sharing of best practices and concrete examples from development stakeholders in Mexico, including civil society organisations, government, academia and the private sector.

Key Messages

- Multidimensional poverty is complex. The lack of basic services such as water, sanitation, education etc. is more commonly known and frequently discussed. This is the 'outside' perspective of poverty.
- The other dimension of poverty is the 'inside' perspective of poverty, related to the people themselves, their well-being and emotions.
- Efforts to address multidimensional poverty will be more successful if they are underpinned by collaboration; between civil society, the private sector, academia and governments. The creation, implementation, evaluation and policy-making related to a poverty reduction programme requires input from different actors at different levels.

Recommendations

- The Permanent Mission of Mexico is continuously following up on the 2030 Agenda and assessing how it is being implemented at the national level. There is political will in Mexico to form a dedicated committee. Petstar runs a corporate social responsibility project called 'Inclusion Collection Model' (MAIP) which provides certainty in

payment and humane treatment of garbage pickers, contributing to the recognition and dignification of this activity. The company serves 24,000 garbage pickers and their families with basic services such as food, education, health and life skills in partnership with CSOs in Mexico.

- People need to be at the centre of poverty eradication strategies initiated by governments so that there is room to tackle well-being indicators currently overlooked.
- Evaluation is crucial; the results and impact on people are paramount. We must also measure access to and quality of services.
- Empowerment is key to tackling poverty. Mayama A.C. has produced five scientific theories to create a new way of educating children in highly impoverished conditions. Issues addressed by these theories include family, development, rights, identity, worthiness, feelings, actions, and relations. All of these issues must be addressed together.



Eradicating Poverty through Education: Increasing Wealth through Sexual Health

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Samantha Martinez (Moderator, Youth Representative, Concepts of Truth International)
- Millie Lace, MSE, LPC (Founder/Director, Concepts of Truth International)
- Constance Tyne (Youth Representative, Concepts of Truth International)
- Barbara Wilson, M.A., (Author/Speaker/Doctoral/PhD Candidate Clinical Psychology, Founder of Freedom Bound Ministries)
- Maggie Peeler, BSW, (Director School Sexual Health Program, Concepts of Truth International)
- Hector Ferrer (Federal Chaplain).

Sponsored by

- Concepts of Truth

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Botswana; Permanent Mission of Canada; Permanent Mission of Ethiopia; Permanent Mission of Ghana; Permanent Mission of India; Permanent Mission of Kenya; Permanent Mission of Liberia; Permanent Mission of Nigeria; Permanent Mission of Panama; Permanent Mission of South Africa; Permanent Mission of Spain; Permanent Mission of United States; Permanent Mission of Zambia

Objectives

To present worldwide statistics of higher risk sex (i.e., sex with a non-marital, non-cohabitating partner); insignificant knowledge about HIV and STI's; the invisible bond and addictive relationships; and the power of education in addressing issues related to sexual and reproductive health. Concepts of Truth International's model of counselling recovery and prevention was reviewed which educates clients to develop the whole person and to instil in each individual a due sense of dignity as a basis for sexual health.

Key Messages

- Material and emotional poverty have increased women's vulnerability to sexual exploitation and sexually transmitted diseases. Lack of knowledge about sexual health can have painful consequences. Sexual education is key to avoid emotional poverty.
- When people are in emotional pain, caused by negative relationships or sexual brokenness, the brain produces a restricted amount of oxytocin which inhibits people from bonding, can induce social anxiety, the perception of being unsafe in a social context, antisocial behaviour and distress responses, in short, emotional poverty.



Recommendations

- A pragmatic sexual health model, I, was presented, which included examples of interventions that can be implemented at the grassroots level. All people (regardless of socio-economic status) can be empowered in their sexual and emotional health.
- Hector Ferrer, Chaplain at a federal prison and single father of two, shared how his life story reflects successful application of the presented principles of empowerment. He endorsed the "He for She" campaign and encouraged the education of children to champion future generations with the principle of gender equality.

The Role of the Media in Promoting Strategies for the Eradication of Poverty

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ms. Daniela Bas, (Moderator, Director UNDESA DSPD)
- Ms. Hibah Hussain (International Public Policy, Google)
- Ms. Lyndal Rowlands (UN Bureau Chief, IPS - Inter Press Service)
- Ms. Yoshita Singh (Senior Correspondent, Press Trust of India)
- Mr. Amjad Atallah (Regional Director for the Americas, Al Jazeera Media Network)
- Mr. Kahraman Haliscelik (Turkish Radio and Television –TRTWorld)
- Mr. Ahmed Fathi (Managing Editor, Global Affairs Analyst, American Television News (ATN))

Sponsored by

- UNDESA DSPD



Objectives

To discuss how to strengthen media coverage of issues related to poverty eradication to help achieve the SDGs by 2030. The media can play a strategic role for eradicating poverty and for developing public understanding of economic, social, and environmental issues; the three pillars of sustainable development. It can provide significant opportunities for people who have experienced poverty to have a voice and share their views. The event highlighted the power of the media and how it can help governments to change their mindset and citizens to change their behavior as a strategy to eradicate poverty. The media can support policy makers in promoting strong social policy frameworks at national level and messages and information on good practices and empowering stories that promote the wellbeing of persons and their environment.

Key Messages

- Speakers highlighted the role of governments and institutions; the lack of human resources to cover stories related to poverty; how the international community can best harness the power of internet and technology to foster the SDGs and alleviate poverty; and how the media can create change by using social media and mobile phones.
- Speakers shared many examples of successful online platforms providing examples such as: helping Indian women get online in rural areas; promoting radio and internet access through mobile phones; launching India digitization of ID cards as a solution to solve poverty; using social media in Turkey to reach out to the poor; and promoting stories from rural areas that encourage sustainable development.

Recommendations

- There is a need to develop effective partnerships with journalists, experts in ICTs, media, governments, the UN, academics and civil society.
- Poverty should be covered in the media as a form of structural violence. This might help media become more interested in the issue of poverty.
- The voices of people living in poverty, especially in developing countries, should be amplified.
- The power of social media needs to be utilized as a major channel to publicise the experiences of those living in poverty and their needs.
- A mechanism should be developed to better inform journalists about poverty issues happening around the world.
- The provision of human and financial resources that would enable the media to effectively cover poverty eradication is necessary.

Poverty in Refugee Camps: Challenges and Prospects

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room F, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Feda Abdelhady-Nasser (Moderator, Deputy Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations)
- Matthias Schmale (Director for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Representative Office in NYC)
- Pietro Sefanini (Researcher and Advocacy Coordinator at the Palestinian Return Centre)
- Anne Irfan (PhD student at the London School of Economics)
- Leila Hilal (independent researcher and writer on Middle East affairs)

Sponsored by

- The Palestinian Return Centre

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Namibia to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations

Observer

Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

UN Agency Present

UNRWA

Objectives

To provide an insight into the current status of Palestinian refugee camps and the levels of poverty found at these camps. The event brought together experts to discuss solutions for eradicating poverty for Palestinian refugees.

Key Messages

- The current situation is the most profound crisis Palestinians have faced since the inaugural crisis in 1947.
- Foreign aid, while needed to sustain the refugee camps, is not helping to develop the Palestinian economy but is in fact hurting the economy. Food insecurity, psychological and physical poverty, and overcrowded spaces are creating cycles of depression that need to be addressed.

Recommendations

- Long-term solutions are necessary to fully alleviate the struggles of Palestinian refugees.
- Education has the most transformative potential, but cannot be the sole solution.
- Palestinian refugees are already the best educated refugees in the world, with over 90% completing basic education. It is now time to organise and mobilise and ask for rights as civilians, not as refugees.
- Political will is necessary to allow refugees to return to their homeland and live in a defined state.



Smart Investments as a Recipe for Poverty Eradication

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 11, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Barrister Ugozie Eze (Moderator)
- Ambassador Phil Johnson (Deputy Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations)
- Ms Caiyun Wang (former Economic Officer, Asian Development Bank and Senior Consultant Asia)
- Fernando Torres (former Senior Investment Officer, Global Emerging Markets, UN Pension Fund)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations



Objectives

Investments that lead to economic growth are not always synonymous with poverty eradication or even poverty reduction. In fact, untargeted investments could lead to income inequality and hence accentuate poverty, for example through inflation. The primary aim of this event was to produce a rich discussion among the globally diverse panel on how and why certain types of investments can help eradicate poverty in different contexts.

Key Messages

- In China, as a means of eradicating poverty, the government is investing in construction of rural roads, circulation of commodities, providing safe clean drinking water, jobs creation and skills training. To ensure that future Chinese investments are successful in helping to reduce poverty, the government must strengthen its capacity to mitigate vulnerabilities of ordinary people.
- Savings are a type of smart investment, because they can empower people to have a sense of ownership and a sense that they are living for the future. So there is a multiplier effect with savings as smart investments; savings create ownership, which creates a sense of responsibility and accountability. It was also pointed out that smart investment in the form of savings increases one's ability to withstand the swings and unpredictability of the economy.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that focus should be placed on solutions during the process of handling smart investments.
- The importance of innovation was emphasised, for example, rather than investing in a hospital, why not invest in a mobile clinic?
- Going forward, there is a need to keep track of commitments made by leaders to monitor whether their words are becoming actions.

Issues, Challenges and Strategies for the Eradication of Poverty to Achieve Sustainable Development for All in the Context of the SDGs

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mr Jayesh Joshi (Moderator, Secretary, VAAG-DHARA)
- Mr. Mahendrajeet Singh Malviya (former Rural Development Minister and Member of the Legislative Assembly, Rajasthan).
- Mr. Jeffery Huffines (UN Representative of CIVICUS)

Sponsored by

- Voluntary Association of Agriculture, General Development
- Health and Reconstruction Alliance (VAAGDHARA)



Objectives

This event had three objectives: firstly, to bring critical perspectives and experiences from the grassroots to the Commission; secondly, to recommend practical strategies to address the poverty conundrum through cost-effective and locally available resources; and finally, to discuss the issue of poverty reduction based on the insights received from the study conducted by VAAGDHARA on the reasons for trans-generational poverty among the tribals in Southern Rajasthan.

Key Messages

- The needs of the most marginalised must be brought to the forefront of policy and they must be the recipients of the resources and programmes being mobilised under the 2030 Agenda.
- Poverty is one of the major reasons for most of the problems in communities and therefore protecting the people's right to secure and protect resources could be the first step in fighting poverty.
- Additionally, representation from the tribal community needs to be improved on different national and international platforms to make their voices heard.

Recommendations

- There is a need to ensure tribal sovereignty and maintain dignity as a key integrated theme in fighting poverty.
- In dealing with poverty eradication among the indigenous community, focus should be on a forest and agriculture based economy which not only has ample employment opportunities, but also has less entry requirements (almost none) which is more suitable for Tribal Youth.
- Budgetary allocations for tribal development must be fully utilised and the government/bureaucracy must be held accountable for non-spending allocated money on intended activities.
- The introduction of Nutri – Sensitive Farming Techniques will improve the nutrition status, especially of women and children.

Sustainable and Social Development in the Fashion Industry: the Paradigm Shift Necessary to Fight Poverty

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

POVERTY

Speakers

- Daniela Bas (Director, UNDESA DSPD)
- Pilar Fernandez (Phd Candidate, Hecho por Nosotros)
- Maria Jose Ordonez (Specialist in Sustainable Fashion, Hecho por Nosotros)
- Kate Holzman (Master in Community Development, Specialist in Ethical Fashion Educational Programmes)
- Miguel Reynolds (Sustainable Organisations SORG)

Sponsored by

- Hecho por Nosotros

Objectives

The event aimed to address the challenge of sustainability and fighting poverty using the fashion industry as a tool to

Key Messages

- Existing trends in the fashion industry include long work hours, extremely low wages, dangerous working conditions, women's rights violations, trafficking and child labour. There needs to be a paradigm shift in the fashion industry in order to prioritise sustainability and poverty eradication.
- Skill building, community empowerment and awareness and use of environmentally sustainable materials are central to achieving such a shift. However, there is a lack of knowledge and government support around the world – specifically in Latin American countries – when it comes to ethical fashion principles and financial and social benefits that would derive from this shift.
- Change has to reach all levels and actors of the fashion industry; international, regional and government regulations, agreements between industry actors, individual companies, factory owners, workers and landowners.
- Consumers have tremendous amount of power to facilitate change.
- Inclusive and equal access to consumer needs, especially persons with disabilities, should also be in the centre of the sustainable fashion approach.
- Sustainable fashion and collective efforts allow fashion companies and communities to preserve



their regional and cultural identity, promote their art as a form of expression and use it as a tool to propel their social and economic evolution.

Recommendations

- Effective and creative strategies in the fashion industry are key in promoting prosperity and eradicating poverty.
- The only way to fight the existing trends in the fashion industry is to promote a new paradigm based on cooperation, recognition and fair rewarding, and by replacing short term, speculative indexes with a transparent and accessible index that openly predicts the sustainability of any company in the value chain.
- Hecho por Nosotros are committed to: finding ways to raise global awareness of the damage and the negative social and environmental impact of the current fashion industry; producing expert informational material that will be made available to governments, NGOs, foundations and media, explaining the problems of the industry and the opportunities that exist in the ethical fashion spectrum; and researching and developing new and innovative solutions and alternatives to the fast fashion culture that currently dictates the fashion industry.

The Poverty of Politics? Pursuing Sustainable Development for All in Challenging Times

POVERTY

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 11, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Paul Ladd (UNRISD Director)
- Ronald Wiman (Chief Social Policy Expert, National Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland)
- Sister Winifred Doherty (Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd)

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations
- UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Member State(s) present

The Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations

Objectives

The objective of this side event was to introduce the UNRISD 2016 Flagship Report, Policy Innovations for Transformative Change, and put it in its current political context in order to discuss current obstacles to integrated policies for poverty eradication. With a looming potential retreat from cooperation, the side event also aimed to discuss what strategies could shift the political dynamics into a different gear to ensure poverty eradication and sustainable development for all.

Key Messages

- Panellists explored some of the current obstacles preventing integrated poverty eradication policies, ranging from the exclusionary and isolationist politics which seem to be taking root in many countries, to growing inequalities, and the continued threats to our natural environment.
- Through the lens of transformative change, as presented in the UNRISD 2016 Flagship Report, the panellists explored the notion of the poverty of politics as an obstacle to progressive social change.
- The discussions went beyond simply considering challenges and symptoms to bring in questions of values, education, and competition versus collaboration.



Recommendations

- NGO efforts to promote participation, empowerment, livelihood and human rights at the grassroots level are essential.
- People should reflect on identity, assumptions, etc. to think out of the box to generate innovative and transformative ideas.

Blockchain: A Highway to Deliberate Democracy

POVERTY

11:45 AM – 1:00PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ramon Soler-Padró Canela (Moderator, Executive Vice President of the World Jurist Association)
- Franklin Hoet (President, World Jurist Association)
- Alexander Löw (President of World Jurist Association Germany)
- Sandra Ro (Digitization, CME Group)
- Jose Luís Martí (Laurance S. Rockefeller Fellow of the University Centre for Human Values of Princeton University, Professor and Researcher of Law Philosophy at University Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona)
- Juan Llanos (Blockchain/Fintech/Compliance Executive and Advisor)
- Amber Baldet (JPMorgan Chase & Co)
- Joseph Lubin and Sam Cassatt (Founders and team members of ConsenSys).
- Alex Puig (Digital Currency Summit)



Sponsored by

- UNDESA

Objectives

This event sought to raise consciousness about how democracy affects the distribution of wealth, and how a transparent administration and mechanised method of recollection of data enables a more efficient analysis of how the SDGs are applied in a certain country or region. These circumstances can only come into fruition through the rule of law, which would also ensure a more secure state of social values and legal principles.

Key Messages

- Technology and society have evolved enough to enable new ways of governance that enable more transparent administration in order to better apply protective measures to ensure the compliance to SDGs.
- Ensuring compliance with the SDGs requires the rule of law.

Recommendations

- It is recommended that Member States define an acceptable standard in transparency and in deliberative democratic governance.
- This standard should enable regional and local actors, including NGOs, to propose policies and provide information to national authorities that can be used to inform poverty eradication strategies.

Social Protection Programmes in Nigeria: Progress and Challenges

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Queen Blessing Itua (Moderator, Internal Chief Adviser, USA)
- Dr. Abiola Tilley-Gyado (President, Society for Family and Social Protection)
- Winifred Doherty (Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd)
- Thayvie Sinn (President Save Cambodia, UN Youth representative to ECOSOC)

Sponsored by

- WorldWIDE Network Nigeria
- Women Development and Environment

Objectives

The objective of the side event was to highlight the importance of social protection as a human right and a smart investment which everyone should have access to. The side event discussed the progress made so far in Nigeria in the area of social protection as well as some of the challenges slowing down the pace towards provision of social protection floors. The event also discussed strategies for collaboration and partnership between the government and civil society towards implementing the social protection policy in Nigeria.

Key Messages

- Social protection as a human right and smart investment falls within the responsibility of the Government.
- Social protection is fundamental in reducing poverty and inequality as it allows for a life in dignity. Access to social protection is a moral imperative enshrined in the International Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreements.
- As a smart investment, social protection can improve human capital and productivity and support growth and jobs.
- From a developmental point of view, massive social protection gaps are missed opportunities. Social protection has the capacity to support people to regain pride and re-establish independence from the bottom up.
- From a youth point of view, social protection at the grassroots level has a positive effect on young people.
- Capacity building needs to take place, as investment in people will cause an increase in human capital.
- Approaches to social protection should involve policies and programmes designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting efficient labour markets, diminishing people's exposure to risks and enhancing their capacity to manage economic and social risks such as unemployment, exclusion, sickness, disability and old age.
- The case of Nigeria was used to illustrate social protection programmes in practice. Specifically mentioned was the draft national policy on social protection which refers to protecting households from vulnerability, preventing households from falling into vulnerability through risk pooling programmes, enabling households/ individuals to engage in productive activities to increase income, promoting gender equity and child rights, and transforming cultural and social inequalities and discrimination. The objectives of the policy include poverty reduction, empowering the poor, ensuring a life of dignity, and promotion of social cohesion, equity, growth and inclusiveness.

Recommendations

- As the responsibility of the State, social protection benefits from State resources need to be distributed equally. Therefore, social protection needs to be included in a State's national budget. There are only 10-15% of developing countries that cannot afford this.



Financing Social Protection Floors: Work of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing Development

POVERTY

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 11, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Professor Jose Antonio Ocampo (Moderator)
- Frank Kanu (Chief Executive Director, the Organisation for Poverty Alleviation and Development (OPAD))

Sponsored by

- Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations

Objectives

The objective of this side event was to update all stakeholders on the outcomes of the expert group meeting and the subsequent work of the Task Force in the area of financing social protection floors.



Key Messages

- Social protection is critical to the sustainable development and financing for development agendas.
- The results of a previous technical meeting on financing social protection held under the auspices of the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development were presented, as was a draft paper entitled "Social Protection Floors in the Financing for Development Agenda".

Recommendations

- The event discussed proposals from Member States that the exploration of coherent funding modalities to mobilize domestic and international support for social protection floors, building on country-led experiences, should be discussed in the upcoming ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development.

The Role of a Shared Society as a Strategy to Reduce Poverty

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Clem McCartney (Moderator, Policy and Content Coordinator, Shared Societies Project, Club de Madrid)
- President Roza Otunbayeva (President of the Kyrgyz Republic (2010-2011), Club de Madrid Member)
- Daniela Bas (Director, UNDESA DSPD)
- Sanjay Reddy (Associate Professor of Economics at The New School for Social Research)

Sponsored by

- Club de Madrid; UNDESA DSPD

Objectives

Despite the enormous progress in reducing extreme poverty in the past two decades, more than 836 million people were still living below the extreme poverty line in 2015. Progress remains uneven across regions and among countries; it is the poorest that are being left behind. Can an active, engaged, and inclusive society help reduce poverty? The objective of this event was to discuss the concept of a shared society and explore ways in which it can inform policy formulation aimed at eradicating poverty.

Key Messages

- A shared society is one in which everyone, the whole society, not only shares the benefits but also the responsibilities of planning and building the future of that community.
- The concept of a shared society has three constituent parts: the first is individual dignity, referring to rights and effective empowerment; the second is conviviality, that is recognition of social pluralism combined with involvement of the whole; and the third is a sense of responsibility for the common good.
- Poverty eradication can only be achieved if we work together in a society that provides equal opportunities to all.
- The shared society concept is also extremely important when it comes to including indigenous peoples in discussions affecting their communities and the communities they are surrounding. By including people and

communities in the discussions from the very beginning solutions and projects can be more sustainable and inclusive.

Recommendations

- Investing in education and health should be an integral part of a shared society context.
- Shared Societies Project of the Club de Madrid is a network of over 100 former democratically-elected Presidents and Prime Ministers that offers a concept of a truly inclusive society that can contribute to social economic and environmental wellbeing.
- Ms. Bas encouraged organizers and participants to continue working together and suggested DSPD's Multi-stakeholder Dialogue Sessions as a platform in which discussions can take place in order to have a more concrete proposal next year at CSocD56.



Leaving No One Behind: the Imperative of Inclusive Development

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM
Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Wenyan Yang (Chief, Social Perspective on Development Branch, UNDESA DSPD)
- Marta Roig (UNDESA DSPD, lead author of the 2016 Report on the World Social Situation)
- Maren Jimenez (UNDESA DSPD, lead author of the 2016 Report on the World Social Situation)
- Jonathan Perry (UNDESA DSPD, lead author of the 2016 Report on the World Social Situation)
- Andrew Shepard (Overseas Development Institute)

Sponsored by

- UNDESA DSPD

Objectives

The first objective of this side event was to determine who is being left behind and in what ways people are excluded, which is key to the 2030 Agenda’s implementation. The second objective was to identify the patterns of social exclusion and consider whether development processes have been inclusive.

Key Messages

- In order to be sustainable, development must be inclusive. Inclusion strategies are very important if the core principle of the 2030 Agenda, reaching those who are furthest behind first, is to be achieved.
- Social inclusion and exclusion are however multi-dimensional concepts, and they are hard to measure.
- Lack of material well being can deter participation and lead to social exclusion, but discrimination is another important factor.
- According to the Report on the World Social Situation (RWSS) 2016, societies continue to make distinctions based on gender, race, ethnic groups, and other grounds.
- Prejudice and discrimination have a deep impact, affecting people’s quality of relations, quality of their education, job opportunities and wellbeing.
- Social inclusion efforts should give groups left behind a voice and respect for their rights.
- There has been significant progress in repealing discriminatory practices in many countries through anti-discrimination laws and policies, but discrimination has deep roots and further action is needed.



Recommendations

- In order to promote inclusion (thereby reducing poverty and vulnerability) the RWSS 2016 recommends applying a stronger equity lens to policy making. Doing so involves four sets of actions:
 1. Promoting a universal approach to social policy.
 2. Complementing such universal approach with special measures meant to tackle the obstacles that affect social groups left behind.
 3. Ensuring policy coherence, namely between social and economic policies.
 4. Promoting inclusive institutions, that is those that promote equity, participation, voice and recognition of the rights of all individuals

Women Agents of Change in Building Shared Societies

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Clem McCartney (Moderator, Policy and Content Coordinator, Shared Societies Project, Club de Madrid)
- President Roza Otunbayeva (President of the Kyrgyz Republic, (2010-2011), Club de Madrid Member)
- Daniela Bas (Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, UNDESA)
- Beatrice Duncan (Justice and Constitutional Advisor, UN Women)
- Eleanor Blomstrom (Co-Director and Head of Office, Women's Environment & Development Organisation (WEDO))
- Hajar Al-Kuhtany (Member of the Club de Madrid Working Group on Women and Shared Societies, Director, International Forum for Islamic Dialogue)

Sponsored by

- Club de Madrid
- UNDESA DSPD
- UN Women

Objectives

The issues of gender equality, empowerment, and minority rights are closely intertwined, and it is difficult to achieve them collectively without achieving each individually. Women have a key role to play in working to build shared societies where all group voices are heard. This event focused on this role, in particular for women in minority or underrepresented groups, in the context of the Shared Societies Project of the Club de Madrid. The event highlighted the ways that women, by mobilizing their untapped resources and accessing the doors they may have open to them that others do not, can particularly contribute to spreading the concept and building inclusivity.

Key Messages

- Women are the largest untapped reservoir of talent in the world. By providing more opportunities for leveraging this talent, all societies will benefit at all levels.
- Intergenerational dialogue is crucial for passing on the knowledge of past hardships from the older generations to the young, who have the energy and creativity to bring about change.
- Indigenous women and women with disabilities, in turn, have unique perspectives due to their traditions, experiences, or particular barriers they have faced, which must be incorporated as well to strengthen democratic dialogue.
- In this vein, confronting intersectionality is crucial as women in these and other minority groups are often impacted by multiple types of discrimination.



Recommendations

- The Shared Societies Project works to show how all individuals and identity groups can contribute equally to building equitable communities where the differences, dignity, and human rights of all peoples are respected.
- While the Club de Madrid, as an organization of former heads of States and governments, can have a special voice among the leadership, it is more important than ever, especially in the current political climate, to bring the message to the people and encourage the concept of Shared Society to spread on the ground.

Yoga's Impact on Poverty Eradication, Sustainable Living and Social Inclusion

SOCIAL INCLUSION

4:45 PM – 6:00 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Denise Scotto, Esq (Moderator, Vice President, International Federation of Women in Legal Careers and UN Representative and Chair, International Day of Yoga Committee at the UN)
- Ms Eenam Gabhir (Representative of the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations)
- German Bravo Casas (retired UN Staff and President of the UN Staff Recreation Council (UNSRC) Yoga Club)
- Denis Licul (UN Representative, Yoga in Daily Life)
- Ishita Contractor (Brahma Kumaris, India)

Sponsored by

- Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
- International Federation of Women in Legal Careers

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations

Objectives

The objective of this side event was to share how yoga is more than physical poses but underlying principles grounded in harmony, unity, interdependence, community and care for the Earth and all creatures. The event brought together yoga experts and practitioners to discuss the way yoga can apply to poverty eradication. While the largest number of yoga practitioners are from India, people all over the world have started to utilize the values of yoga to create a more mindful, compassionate global environment.

Key Messages

- The essence of yoga radiates through the Sustainable Development Goals in three ways: non-violence, no material things, and contentment.
- There are many kinds of yoga from service, to action to raj yoga using meditation and the mind.
- Yoga does not only apply to individuals, but also to governments and organizations.
- Respect for all life and the dignity of the person allows for engaging people from all walks of life and provides an opportunity for inclusion and participation.
- Interdependence fuels coming together to take collective action for the betterment of everyone

Recommendations

- The UN system should elevate the thinking to have more sustainable and developed interactions and language.



Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: Ensuring No One is Left Behind

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Dr. Ify Ofong (Moderator, National Coordinator, Women in Development and Environment)
- Daniel Perell, (Chair, NGO Committee for Social Development)
- Ms. Nodira Azizova (Syracuse University, USA)
- Maren Jimenez (UNDESA DSPD)
- Dr. Abiola Tilley-Gaydo (President Society for Family and Social Protection (SFSP), Nigeria)

Sponsored by

- NGO Committee for Social Development
- WorldWIDE Network Nigeria

Objectives

The event aimed to highlight the immediate need for a new form of alliance and collaboration between governments, the private sector and civil society in order to ensure that no one is left behind in the road to achieve the SDGs. The discussion stressed the need for new partnerships between the government, civil society and the private sector, founded on mutual trust and respect for each other's roles in sustainable development. In addition to outlining effective strategies to ensure no-one is left behind, the discussion also touched on the role of women in ending hunger and promoting sustainable agriculture to achieve SDGs and the role of youth in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Key Messages

- Overall economic and social development does not guarantee that everyone is participating and benefitting equally.
- Concepts and symptoms of social exclusion need to be at the centre of the discussions when addressing effective ways of leaving no-one behind. Social exclusion is a relative process, for example, interpersonal discrimination could mean that applicants with certain ethnic names being less likely to find jobs.
- We need to make sure that those who have historically been left behind are given the opportunity to share their thoughts and knowledge.
- Absence of opportunities and lack of education and practical knowledge amongst women is reinforcing gender inequality, poverty and food insecurity, especially in rural areas.
- Women lack access to credit in horticulture and do not have collateral and opportunities to receive credit from financial institutions to expand. Women also lack knowledge of preparing business plans and marketing strategies as well as facilities for post-harvest storage.
- Monitoring and evaluation is an important tool in ensuring no one is left behind.



Recommendations

- There is a need to re-orient our economic policies so they pursue social inclusion. The need for accurate data in relation to promoting inclusion was also stressed.
- Tackling the obstacles that prevent us from reaching the furthest behind first should be a priority when we discuss effective strategies to ensure that the most vulnerable groups and populations are not excluded.
- We need constructive, inclusive engagement that ensures the voices of people suffering from poverty are being heard – “About them, for them, with them”. By leaving people living in poverty behind, we are missing out on accurate readings of the problems - let alone finding accurate solutions.
- It was recommended that more gender awareness trainings be organized for men and women in rural agricultural communities. Rural women should have access to leadership trainings to develop skills and knowledge on economic and social development, in addition to business and entrepreneurial trainings.
- Monitoring and evaluating the progress of the implementation of the SDGs should be a priority. It requires peeling back the issues affecting each social group, as well as the different layers of each programme.
- Effective monitoring and evaluation also requires disaggregated data, agreement on what to monitor, budget tracking, transparent programming and stakeholder participation.

Resource Mobilisation and Innovation for Youth Empowerment for Agenda 2030 Action

YOUTH

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Miroslav Polzer (Moderator, IAAI Klagenfurt, Austria)
- Dr Minna Aslama Horowitz (Assistant Professor, St. John's University, Division of Mass Communication)
- Timothy Damon (Founder and CEO, Global Youth Development Institute)
- Alex (Zekai) Wang (Youthink Center China)
- Nahom Zeleke, (Horn of Africa Regional Environment Center/Network)

Sponsored by

- International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges (IAAI)

Objectives

This event aimed to highlight the role of youth in implementing the 2030 Agenda and present innovative approaches to youth engagement in Agenda 2030 implementation developed by Global Challenges Action Network/ Partnership GloCha. Examples of such innovative approaches include: Global Challenges Youth Music Contest #GYMC; Global Challenges Youth and ICT Centers; Agenda 2030 Marketplace #YouthEntrepreneurship2030; and COP22 Call for Resources for Youth Climate Action #GiveYouthAChance.

Key Messages

- The role of youth in implementing the 2030 Agenda should be taken seriously; they are the guardians of the Agenda and need to be part of the conversation.
- One of the challenges is fighting youth "burnout": young people are interested in engaging and taking action to tackle global issues, however, they often lose interest due to a lack of resources to sustain their activities and sometimes due to lengthy and bureaucratic processes that leads them to believe that the UN might not be the establishment where they can make a difference.
- There is a lack of representation within the youth space. Only certain young people from certain parts of the world are able to participate in decision making processes.

Recommendations

- Youth empowerment should be intergenerational, entrepreneurial and should utilize available data and innovative tools.
- There needs to be a clear structure of the role of the youth within the UN bureaucracy; not just one that enables them to raise their concerns, but one in which they can be part of the decision/policy making and strategy planning.
- To tackle disproportionate representation, there should be a fellowship programme that brings youth from the Global



South to attend UN conferences/forums and report back to their communities, enabling young people to become agents of change.

- There needs to be an enabling environment that accommodates people who are not necessarily actors but do have a voice and should have an impact in decision making processes in their communities in order to advance the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.
- The Global Youth Development Institute is a global youth network that aims to provide the structure that is missing within youth along with key principles and practices that enable them to play a key role when it comes to climate change and poverty eradication discussions.
- Global Challenges Youth Music Contest #GYMC is a global cross-media broadcast music event, co-organized with UNESCO and the European Broadcasting Union, aiming to present key challenges and issues of climate change - in connection with poverty eradication - using high level guests/presenters.
- COP22 Call for Resources for Youth Climate Action #GiveYouthAChance aims to set up transformative partnerships for Paris agreement implementation and to empower young people to take meaningful and rewarding action on climate change.

1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

Conference Room 8, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Ms. Marissa Storozum (Moderator, Associate Social Affairs Officer, UNDESA DSPD)
- Ms. Nicola Shepherd (UN Focal Point on Youth, UNDESA DSPD)
- Ms. Zuzana Vuová (Youth Delegate, Czech Republic)
- Mr. Mohamed Ghedira (Youth Delegate, Tunisia)
- Mr. Yaron Oppenheimer (First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations)
- Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi (Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA))
- Ms. Penny Morton (First Secretary, Human Rights, Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations)



Sponsored by

- UNDESA DSPD

Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations; Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations

Objectives

The side event aimed to bring together interested Permanent Missions, civil society organizations and other stakeholders, including from underrepresented regions, to discuss the value of the UN Youth Delegates Programme as an opportunity for youth engagement in the United Nations and to gain further awareness of its various aspects.

Key Messages

- In 2016, over 65 Youth Delegates from 37 countries participated in the 71st session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The number of Youth Delegates attending the General Assembly, the Commission for Social Development and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development has been steadily increasing.
- However, Youth Delegates from the African, Asia-Pacific and Latin American and Caribbean regions remain underrepresented.

Recommendations

- The event provided an opportunity for all interested stakeholders to learn more about the Programme and possible ways and strategies for the establishment and design of a national Youth Delegate Programme.

The Promoting of Mental Health and Wellbeing for Youth as a Strategy for Social Integration and Poverty Eradication

YOUTH

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Dr. Judy Kuriansky (Moderator, IAAP)
- H.E. Pascal Buffin (Deputy Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations)
- Daniela Bas (Director, UNDESA DSPD)
- Sophia Angelica, Dylan Calderon, Cesar Fernandez (Rybin Studio of Drama presenting an original drama "The Way Up, Not Out" and song "That's Just the Way Life Is")
- Jean-Marie Vianney Bazibuhe (Founder, Hope and Health Vision, Burundi and the Congo)
- David Marcotte, PhD, SJ, Justin Rivers, Jalene Rivera, Luis Adames (the Character Connection Initiative USA)
- Dr. Wais Aria (Executive Director and Founder, Tabish Organisation Psychosocial Support, Afghanistan)
- Naomi N'sa (UN Youth Delegate Belgium)
- Frank Kanu (Executive Director and Founder, Organisation for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Sweden)
- H.E. Dr. Caleb Otto, Permanent Representative of Palau to the United Nations



Sponsored by

- UNDESA DSPD
- Permanent Mission of Palau to the UN
- Permanent Mission of Belgium to the UN
- Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the UN
- International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP)
- Psychology Coalition at the United Nations

Member State(s) present

- Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations
- Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations
- Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the United Nations

Objectives

The objective of this event was to showcase a variety of successful initiatives and strategies promoting positive mental wellbeing for youth around the globe that implement target 3.4 of Agenda 2030 (promote mental health and wellbeing). It was noted that mental health conditions have a significant impact on the development of over 1 billion youth and their inclusion in society. Approaches to help youth for personal and social development must include the purposeful promotion of positive mental wellness; provision of evidence-based mental health services; and strategies to reduce stigma and encourage empowerment. The panelists described initiatives that provide psychosocial support for youth mental health and wellbeing. Representatives from diverse regions of the world – countries in Africa and Europe, the USA and Afghanistan - described a broad range of mental wellness initiatives that have successfully assisted youth facing uncertain mental health due to conditions of poverty and social unrest.

The Promoting of Mental Health and Wellbeing for Youth as a Strategy for Social Integration and Poverty Eradication

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

Conference Room 12, United Nations Headquarters

Key Messages

- Poverty, social exclusion, violence and psychosocial issues are inextricably linked.
- Youth are at special risk of poor mental health and wellbeing. Exacerbating factors include poverty, social exclusion, trauma and exposure to violence and armed conflict.
- However, youth have a strong and important voice to express their psychosocial needs and the power to seek help. Youth from various cultures also have similar psychosocial needs, making it possible for programmes to be adapted to various settings.
- Impressive programmes on the ground in various regions of the world are supporting youth with unique and substantive approaches to address their mental, social and spiritual well being within the context of community-based services.
- These programmes are excellent models, and can be scaled up to serve a larger number of youth.
- Young people around the world can express their psychosocial needs and the benefits they derive from participating in such programmes that yield advantage to themselves, their peers, families and communities.

Recommendations

- Referring to the internet popularity of “hot spots,” Ambassador Otto (of the Palau Mission) called for community empowerment to create more “Hope Spots” for young people.
- There is an urgent need to integrate strategies that address mental, social and spiritual well being of youth within community-based programmes including education, training, employment and health programmes.
- Small investments that empower community members to provide support services can make a significant impact, not just on mental well being but on the education and employment prospects of the youth assisted.
- Psychosocial support provides a respite from violence and poverty, giving youth alternatives and hope to overcome their challenges, to build on inner strength and to create opportunities that lead to a better future to fulfill their dreams.
- Programmes for psychosocial assistance for youth that already exist in different regions of the world should be recognized, adapted for other settings, and scaled up.
- The project “HOPE AND HEALTH VISION” provides psychosocial, education and basic needs services to vulnerable children in the Burundi/DRC border region of Africa, particularly those affected by war and violence.
- The “CHARACTER CONNECTION INITIATIVE” works with students, educators and families in the inner cities of the USA to integrate character concepts and language

Rising Generations: Youth as Drivers of Prospering Communities

YOUTH

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Conference Room 9, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Bitá Correa (Programme Director, Fundación para la Aplicación y Enseñanza de las Ciencias (FUN-DAEC))
- Eric Farr (Consultant, Western Quebec School Board)
- Hawa Diallo (Public Information Officer, DPI-NGO)
- Youth Delegate, Czech Republic

Sponsored by

- Baha'i International Community



Member State(s) present

Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

Objectives

The event focused on the critical role played by youth in development efforts at the local level. Particular consideration was given to ways that the growing participation of young people in the betterment of their communities impacts and is impacted by local structures of governance. Speakers shared grassroots experiences on the transformative potential of educational policy. The role of government in releasing the constructive potential of youth was also addressed.

Key Messages

- Youth are not just the future; they are a necessary driver of development change now.
- Youth are imperative in achieving the 2030 Agenda and implementing strategy and policy to meet the SDGs.

Recommendations

- Young people need to be provided with spaces that support their ability to achieve global social change, for example, places in government and policy creation.
- Programmes need to be implemented at the local and national level to encourage civic engagement from young people.
- It is recommended that the Commission implement cultural safety grounds to build harmonious communities.

Global Citizenship for Social Development: Universal Curriculum Design and ICT-facilitated Intercultural Learning Environments for all Students

YOUTH

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Mr. Reggie Bennett, (Moderator, Teacher, Music and Special Education, Reach Academy)
- Dr. Carol Kennedy (Main Representative of Manhattan Multicultural Counselling to ECOSOC, member of NGO CELL, Educational Technology Consultant, Fordham University and Member of C.A.S.T. Cadre (Centre for Applied Special Technology))
- Dr. Eunhee Jung (Founder and Executive Director, IVECA Centre for International Virtual Schooling, Main Representative of IVECA to the UN-ECOSOC and UN-DPI, Member of NGO CELL, and Co-Chair, NGO Steering Committee of an International Day of Education for Global Citizenship)
- Mr. Danilo Parmegiani (Executive Director, Legion of Good Will USA (LGW) and Main Representative of LGW to the ECOSOC)
- Ms. Elizabeth Akua-Nyarko Patterson (MPO of the Girls Education Initiative of Ghana, and Member of NGO CELL)
- Ms. Lily Gray (Programme Officer for Education, UNESCO Office in New York)



Sponsored by

- The NGO Committee for Education, Learning and Literacy (NGO CELL)

Objectives

Global citizenship implies a sense of solidarity with, and belonging to, a wider community that includes peoples and cultures around the world. This event aimed to present frameworks and strategies for fostering a sense of global citizenship early in schools by connecting not only the classrooms, but also the curricula used, in a shared development of global citizenship.

Key Messages

- Accessibility for education means not just accommodating students with disabilities, but applying design principles that make learning inclusive for everyone – all students gain from accessible programmes.
- Universal curriculum design has various advantages, for example; it makes learning accessible not just to people with disabilities but to everyone and it provides a solution to 'technology gaps'.
- Where technology is available, there are several possible innovative techniques for classroom interaction: connecting classrooms for shared lessons between less-advantaged and greater-advantaged areas and between countries to expose the students to wider learning opportunities and give the teachers access to more pedagogical resources; technology-mediated classroom exchanges

using videoconference or video "letters" to foster intercultural competence; and using technology to provide a variety of methods for transmitting learning and for students to express their learning in different ways.

Recommendations

- Education should try to move away from a one-size-fits-all approach to learning, and create different ways to learn and to express knowledge that will be more inclusive for learners of all abilities and in all environments.
- Parents, educators, and policy-makers must be engaged in the process and included in learning how to use the technology, and participate in the curriculum for global citizenship.

Achieving Sustainable Development through Social and Political Entrepreneurship: Voice of Global Youth Innovators

YOUTH

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Conference Room E, United Nations Headquarters

Speakers

- Saad Amer (Moderator, SustainUS)
- Ari Eisenstat (UN Global Sustainability Index Institute/ Dream Ventures)
- Luz Maria Utrera (UN Interagency Network on Youth Development's Working Group on Youth & Gender Equality, UN Women Champion for Change, Luz Maria Foundation)
- Allyson Humphrey (UN Women)
- Karol Alejandra Arambula Carrillio (Founder & Head of Operations MY World Mexico)
- Amelia Subervi and Andrew Pett (Co-Founders, Student Coalition for Social Justice)
- Andrew Almonte (Director of Strategic Partnerships at PPD&G I Private Family Office, CIO I Entrepreneur & Motivational Speaker)
- Amy Frieder, Aubree Sepler, George Chai, Keoni DeFranco, Robert He and Shani Christopher (Sustain US Delegation Leaders)



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Objectives

This event aimed to showcase that youth engagement is higher currently than in previous years, specifically in political and social life and entrepreneurship.

Key Messages

- Youth voices matter.
- Change happens when ordinary people talk, act and move.

Recommendations

- It is important to discuss the challenges and obstacles faced by youth, as well as their successes.
- Breaking down stereotypes and cultures which may negatively affect the participation of certain groups of people is crucial.
- There is a need to focus on marginalized groups in developing countries as they typically have the knowledge but not the ability to be heard.
- Those who are trying to make real change happen should find partners who will help them achieve their goal
- Six key steps forward include: educate and activate; build bridges; collaborate; engage; initiate; and share the conversation.

Notes

