

What are the UN SDGs and what do they mean for libraries?

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Vision: "A world with universal literacy." . 12 1.99.0 -1-Ń

UN 2030 Agenda





Advocacy and engagement





Access to Information





Target 16.10: "Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements"

Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels





Adoption is the first step

Image: Ireland United Nations, https://twitter.com/irishmissionun/status/627979198074888193

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- What can libraries contribute to the
- SDGs?
- An existing, funded network that reaches the local level and which can be used to deliver programmes
 - including government programmes in some cases
- Skills and resources to help the population achieve universal literacy
- Access to research, information and data
- Public access to ICT supports digital inclusion



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Next step: National development plans

- First step to help implement the SDGs is to be a part of your country's agenda
- Find out if your country has already started working on national development plans
- Find out which government departments or ministries are responsible
- Organize meetings and take part in open consultations



Processes and who to contact

1. New national development plan

Country will formulate a new national development plan using the SDGs and regional plans as the basis

Contact: Ministry for Development, Minister responsible for SDGs

2. Existing national development process

SDGs will be incorporated into existing national development process.

Contact: Ministry for Development, Minister responsible for SDGs, Ministry of Education, Culture (and others)

3. Variety of plans and processes

SDGs will be integrated across different portfolios and policies as these countries do not have a single national development plan. Policies may or may not be updated to specifically reference the SDGs.

Contact: Ministry of Education, Culture (and others)

4. Not yet known

It is not yet known what the process will be.

Contact: UN Country Team contacts – eg your local UNDP office



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Some examples

- Panama: Decree to adopt SDGs announced 6 October
- Tanzania: Will include SDGs in next 5 year National Development Plan
- Ghana: National Development Planning Commission will incorporate into overall development plan
- Colombia: With ECLAC, have published full analysis
 mapping each SDG target to national targets
- Zimbabwe: Integrate with Zim-Asset
- Uganda: National Planning Authority (NPA) will fully integrate the SDGs into the Second National Development Plan
- Open Government Partnership countries: September 2015 Declaration commits governments to take advantage of the OGP infrastructure to achieve Goal 16



Latvia

Phone and internet access

MY Analytics

336 votes for Latvia / All Genders / All Education Levels / Age Group (All Age Groups) 0 50 100 150 200 A good education 221 Better healthcare 188 An honest and responsive government 179 Protecting forests, rivers and oceans 170 Protection against crime and violence 149 Affordable and nutritious food 144 Access to clean water and sanitation 141 Better job opportunities 135 Freedom from discrimination and persecution 132 Political freedoms 94 Action taken on climate change 89 Better transport and roads 83 Equality between men and women 76 72 Reliable energy at home Support for people who can't work 70

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What's important in your country?

← All

Source -

Partners 🔻





SDGs and some examples

Image: Global Goals www.globalgoals.org



Uganda Health Information Digest published by the Makere University library repackages scholarly information in print format for health workers who would not otherwise have access to online information. The Digest includes abstracts on topical disease and health issues. It is distributed to over 1500 health units including hospitals, health centres, dispensaries, health related NGOs, district medical offices, all district health/social services committees and Members of Parliament. The Digest is one of the few sources of up to date in remote areas during disease outbreaks such as Hepatitis.

Infomed is the first electronic health information network in Cuba, which emerged as part of a project to facilitate the electronic exchange of information between a set of libraries, information centres and other entities that make up the National Information System of Medical Sciences in the Ministry of Health

Advancing Sustainable Development Through Information and Communication Technologies: WSIS Action Lines Enabling SDGs http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/Content/wsis-sdg_draftbooklet.pdf

3. Good Health



The National Library of Uganda has an ICT training program designed for female farmers, providing access to weather forecasts, crop prices, and support to set up online markets, in local languages. This programme increases the economic well-being of women through technology skills.

Beyond Access (2012) Empowering Women and Girls Through ICT at Libraries <u>http://beyondaccess.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Beyond-Access GirlsandICT-Issue-Brief.pdf</u>

5. Gender Equality



Latvia: For every dollar invested in public libraries in Latvia from 2008-2010, nearly \$2 in value (direct and indirect) was created. The return on investment of computer and Internet use in public libraries was even higher, returning more than \$3 for every dollar invested.

K Paberza (2012): Economic value and impact of public libraries in Latvia

United Kingdom: The Alan Turing Institute at the British Library undertakes data science research at the intersection of computer science, mathematics, statistics and systems engineering; provides technically informed advice to policy makers on the wider implications of algorithms; enables researchers from industry and academia to work together to undertake research with practical applications; and act as a magnet for leaders in academia and industry from around the world to engage with the UK in data science and its applications.

http://www.bl.uk/press-releases/2015/january/alan-turing-institute-statement

Finland: Open Science Lab hosted by the National Library of Finland enables access to research publications, research data and methods used in research by everyone. Open Access is one of the core principles in furthering access to information.

http://blogs.helsinki.fi/natlibfi-bulletin/?page_id=261http://openscience.fi/

9. Innovation and Infrastructure



Mongolia: Most of Mongolia's 15,000 blind and low vision people are unemployed. In 2010, Ulaanbaatar Public Library (UPL) and the Mongolian National Federation of the Blind built two recording studios to create talking books in digital DAISY format that has increased the amount of accessible materials, and opened up new worlds of learning for visually impaired people. The Mongolian Libraries Consortium (MLC) advocated for adoption of the Marrakesh Treaty (2013) to facilitate access to

published works for persons with print disabilities, the parliament voted to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty in July 2015.

http://www.eifl.net/news/mongolia-votes-ratify-marrakesh-treaty-persons-print-disabilities

10. Reduced Inequalities



United Kingdom: The British Library's Endangered Archives Project aims to contribute to the preservation of archival material that is in danger of destruction, neglect or physical deterioration world-wide. Within its aim, the project digitises and makes available materials from a large variety of countries often it enables countries and libraries with fewer funds to preserve and safeguard their documentary heritage.

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities



In Moldova, libraries are contributing to Open Government Partnership (OGP) action plans, a platform between government, civil society and business to drive commitments to open government and accountability. Librarians attend civil society meetings to help develop the country's national action plan, and to include the role of libraries as a supporter of access to information.

In Ukraine, protests in Kiev in 2014 around the Maidan put the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine was at the midst of the clashes. The library opened its doors to those wounded during the clashes and people in need of some rest and a safe place.

http://www.ifla.org/node/8422

16. Peace and Justice



Canada: National Science Library, National Research Council is co-sponsor of the Federal Science Library; this is a project of seven federal science department libraries to create a single shared discovery and access platform for more sustainable library and information services for federal government researchers and employees and to enhance visibility and access to federal science library collections and repositories for Canadians. The project is a commitment in the Open Government Action Plan under the Open Information Core Commitment.

http://open.canada.ca/en/content/canadas-action-plan-open-government-2014-16#ch4-3

17. Partnership for the Goals



IFLA: Truly accountable, responsive governments in the capital must be supported by literate, engaged people across the country

A World That Counts: Data Revolution

Image CC-BY: Foreign & Commonwealth Office/Patrick Tsui



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Every librarian can take part

- Make the Goals famous: Share information about the SDGs at your library
- Learn more about what people in your country want from the Goals at The World We Want and the MyWorld data site
 - <u>https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics</u>
 - https://www.worldwewant2015.org
 - http://data.myworld2015.org
- UN Depository Libraries have an essential role in communicating information and research to help achieve the Goals