New UN websites & publications

UN in General

Year in Review 2015 Video
English: http://un4.me/1JE4NvM
French: http://un4.me/1NSyn2a
Spanish: http://un4.me/1JbTRKG

2015 was a year of triumphal moments and haunting images: A little boy, washed up on the shore symbolising the plight of 60 million refugees; people in Paris, Beirut and Nairobi running from terror attacks and countries ruined in relentless battles. The "UN Year in Review 2015" remembers once more the daunting challenges the United Nations faced in its 70th anniversary year - but also gives a glimpse of what can be achieved, when we all work together.

Paris Agreement
English, French & Spanish: http://un4.me/1IPSEIM
Further documents for COP21: http://un4.me/1RNdCdj
FAQs: http://un4.me/221HW8E

An historic agreement to combat climate change and unleash actions and investment towards a low carbon, resilient and sustainable future was agreed by 195 nations in Paris on 12 December 2015. The Paris Agreement for the first time brings all nations into a common cause based on their historic, current and future responsibilities. The universal agreement’s main aim is to keep a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius and to drive efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The 1.5 degree Celsius limit is a significantly safer defence line against the worst impacts of a changing climate.
The UN Department of Public Information's News and Content Branch has launched a new webpage that will appear periodically. The page, which highlights a selection of key news and feature items from UNTV, UN Radio, UN Photo and the UN News Centre, will be updated every fortnight.

**UN System Chart – updated version (DPI/2470/Rev.4)**

Now also available in German: [http://un4.me/1NGbFxN](http://un4.me/1NGbFxN)

**Division for Public Administration and Development Management, Department of Economic and Social Affairs – redesigned website**


A newly redesigned website was launched by DPADM/DESA in December. With the availability of its content in all six official languages of the United Nations, DESA/DPADM aims to enhance the outreach and accessibility of the department’s work in the area of public administration to all UN Member States and other stakeholders, particularly to highlight the essential and critical roles of public administration in supporting the newly adopted sustainable development goals and targets.


[https://publicadministration.un.org/wsis10/](https://publicadministration.un.org/wsis10/)

The General Assembly held a two-day high-level plenary meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). This meeting addressed harnessing ICTs for sustainable development, bridging digital divides, enabling environment, financial mechanisms, human rights in the information society, building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, internet governance, enhanced cooperation, and follow-up processes. A number of side events took place with a focus on the use of ICTs in specific areas, including cyber security and trust, measuring the Information Society, ICTs for policy making, closing the gender gap, raising Africa’s digital presence, as well as showcasing best practices.

**Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**


This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.
World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development: Special Digital Focus 2015 (UNESCO)
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002349/234933e.pdf
World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development – Special Digital Focus 2015 explores emerging opportunities and challenges for press freedom in the digital age. With a focus on online hate speech, protection of journalism sources, the role of internet intermediaries in fostering freedom online, and the safety of journalists, the report highlights the importance of new actors in promoting and protecting freedom of expression online and off-line. In a media environment transformed by digital technologies, this special volume in the World Trends series is a key reference for Governments, journalists, media workers, civil society, the private sector, academics and students.

Peace and Security

For more information - UN News Centre Story:

UN Security Council adopts historic resolution on Youth, Peace and Security on 9 December 2015
Background information available on UN Pulse (Dag Hammarskjöld Library):
http://tmblr.co/ZE4p7x1zvjzxU

United Nations Peacekeeping Operations – Fact Sheet: 30 November 2015 (DPI/1634/Rev.175, December 2015)
Economic & Social Development

2015 Human Development Report: Rethinking Work for Human Development (UNDP)
view online: http://report.hdr.undp.org/
German: http://is.gd/9AFGys

Fast technological progress, deepening globalization, aging societies and environmental challenges are rapidly transforming what work means today and how it is performed. This new world of work presents great opportunities for some, but also profound challenges for others. The 2015 Human Development Report, released on 14 December 2015 at a ceremony in Ethiopia, urges governments to act now to ensure no one is left behind in the fast-changing world of work. The report, titled ‘Work for Human Development’, calls for equitable and decent work for all. In doing so, it encourages governments to look beyond jobs to consider the many kinds of work, such as unpaid care, voluntary, or creative work that are important for human development. The report suggests that only by taking such a broad view can the benefits of work be truly harnessed for sustainable development.

AIDS by the numbers 2015 (UNAIDS)
The world has halted and reversed the spread of HIV. The epidemic has been forced into decline. New HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths have fallen dramatically since the peak of the epidemic. Now the response is going one step further—ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

Focus on location and population: On the Fast-Track to end AIDS by 2030 (UNAIDS)
Ahead of World AIDS Day 2015, UNAIDS has released this report on 24 November 2015 showing that countries are getting on the Fast-Track to end AIDS by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. By adapting to a changing global environment and maximizing innovations, countries are seeing greater efficiencies and better results. Progress in responding to HIV over the past 15 years has been extraordinary. By June 2015, UNAIDS estimates that 15.8 million people were accessing antiretroviral therapy, compared to 7.5 million people in 2010 and 2.2 million people in 2005. At the end of 2014, UNAIDS estimates that new HIV infections had fallen by 35% since the peak in 2000 and AIDS-related deaths have fallen by 42% since the 2004 peak.

Food in an uncertain future: The impacts of climate change on food security and nutrition in the Middle East and North Africa (WFP / Overseas Development Institute)
http://un4.me/1YpZfvx
This report sets out the risks to food security in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) from climate change, and how these vulnerabilities interact with other key trends and sources of risk, including population growth, urbanisation, and conflict. Focused on the year 2030, this report contributes to a better understanding of how these trends and risks may affect achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Zero Hunger in the MENA region. It highlights some particularly vulnerable groups, and also options for reducing climate risks to food security. Most studies in the region have focused on climate risks to food production. By contrast, this report emphasises the importance of climate risks to other aspects of food security, particularly people’s ability to purchase the food that leads to a safe and healthy diet.
Guidelines for Implementing Information Accessibility in Learning - ICT4IAL (UNESCO)

English, French, Spanish, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, German, Greek, Icelandic, Italian, Maltese, Norwegian, Portuguese & Swedish: http://www.ict4ial.eu/download-guidelines

The guidelines are now available in 23 languages providing practical solutions for the preparation and sharing of accessible information for persons with disabilities and their teachers for learning and training purposes. The set of recommendations provide practical information on how to prepare the accessible text, image, audio, video, and media files.

Health in 2015: from MDGs to SDGs (WHO)

In 2015 the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) come to the end of their term, and a post-2015 agenda, comprising 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), takes their place. This WHO report looks back 15 years at the trends and positive forces during the MDG era and assesses the main challenges that will affect health in the coming 15 years.

ILO Global Estimates on Migrant Workers
Report: http://un4.me/1Id6vJc
Summary: http://un4.me/1T5UMwI

A new statistical study conducted by the United Nations International Labour Organization (ILO) has revealed that migrant workers account for 150.3 million of the world’s approximately 232 million international migrants, which amounts to a total of 72.7 per cent of working age migrant population. The report provides estimates on labour migration, including regions and industries where international migrant workers are established and a special focus on migrants in domestic work. The study, released on 16 December 2015 ahead of International Migrants Day, shows that among the 206.6 million migrant population of 15 years and over, the majority are men, totalling 83.7 million of the population, as compared to the 66.6 million women migrant workers. According to the ILO, labour migration is a phenomenon that concerns all regions of the world, however almost half or 48.5 per cent of migrant workers are concentrated in two broad regions: Northern America, and Northern, Southern and Western Europe, whereas the Arab States have the highest proportion of migrant workers as a share of all workers, with 36.5 per cent.

State of World Population 2015: Shelter from the Storm (UNFPA)

English: http://un4.me/1NfGLIU
French: http://un4.me/1jM3ROI
Spanish: http://un4.me/1Tys1sf
German: http://un4.me/1ICmTmu

The health needs of women and adolescents are too often neglected in humanitarian response to natural disasters and conflicts around the world, even though whether women and girls live or die in a crisis often depends on access to basic sexual and reproductive health services like midwives and HIV prevention, says a new report released on 3 December 2015 by UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund. The report shows that of the 100 million people in need of humanitarian assistance around the world today, about 26 million are women and adolescent girls in their childbearing years.
Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste (FAO)


The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the CGIAR research program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM) launched on 4 December 2015 a new initiative to enhance global cooperation on measuring and reducing food loss and waste. The new platform is an information-sharing and coordination network involving diverse stakeholders, such as international organisations, development banks, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector. Platform partners will work together to enhance the measurement of food loss and waste, exchange knowledge and information, and share best practices to tackle the global challenges of food loss and waste.

**Unless we act now: The impact of climate change on children (UNICEF)**


More than half a billion children live in areas with extremely high flood occurrence and 160 million in high drought severity zones, leaving them highly exposed to the impacts of climate change, UNICEF said in a report released on 24 November 2015 ahead of COP21. Of the 530 million children in the flood-prone zones, some 300 million live in countries where more than half the population lives in poverty – on less than $3.10 a day. Of those living in high drought severity areas, 50 million are in countries where more than half the population lives in poverty.

**Voluntary guidelines to support the integration of genetic diversity into national climate change adaptation planning (FAO)**

*English, French & Spanish:* [http://un4.me/1OAIJDI](http://un4.me/1OAIJDI)

The guidelines take account of the characteristics of different genetic resources for food and agriculture which face different challenges and opportunities in respect to climate change. The objectives of the guidelines are to promote the use of genetic resources for food and agriculture in climate change adaptation and support their integration into national climate change adaptation planning; to support the genetic resources experts and those involved in climate change adaptation to identify and address the challenges and opportunities of genetic resources for food and agriculture in adaptation; and to promote the involvement of genetic resources stakeholders in the national climate change adaptation planning process. The guidelines follow the structure and approach of the technical guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan process prepared by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The process involves four main elements in each of which a number of steps are proposed.
Human Rights

OHCHR Library Research Guide: International Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-finding Missions
http://libraryresources.unog.ch/factfinding
This research guide lists international commissions of inquiry (CoI) and fact-finding missions and other investigations established by the United Nations to gather and compile information on violations of international human rights law and humanitarian law. For each commission or fact-finding mission, information on the mandating authority, members, and links to the related reports of the missions, where available, are provided.

Afghanistan: Human Rights and Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict - Special Report on Kunduz Province (OHCHR / UNAMA)
This special report – released on 12 December 2015 by the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) - documents civilian harm and human rights concerns in Kunduz province from 28 September to 13 October 2015 – the period covering the Taliban’s attack and temporary occupation of Kunduz city, the counter-offensive by pro-Government forces up to the point they regained control of the city, as well as the conflict elsewhere in the province. The report documents civilian deaths and injuries during the reporting period and presents preliminary findings on arbitrary killings, abductions, assault and other forms of violence, including threats and widespread criminality, the use of child fighters during the conflict, the impact on access to education, health, and freedom of movement.

An Assessment of Human Rights Issues Emanating from Traditional Practices in Liberia (OHCHR / UNMIL)
A UN report released on 18 December 2015 by by the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights documents the negative impact on human rights of some traditional and cultural practices in Liberia, including female genital mutilation, forced initiation into secret societies, accusations of witchcraft, trials by ordeal and ritualistic killing. The report draws on in-depth interviews with victims, family members, community leaders, Government officials and civil society members between January 2012 and September 2015. It shows that such violations disproportionately affect women, children, elderly people, destitute people and those with disabilities. “Criminal offenses perpetrated through harmful traditional practices often go unpunished due to their perceived cultural dimensions,” the report notes.

Brochure on the International Decade for People of African Descent
http://tinyurl.com/on969d5
A new brochure provides an overview of the Decade, including a foreword by the Secretary-General and an introduction by the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It is available in English; other languages are forthcoming.
Climate Change and Human Rights (UNEP)
http://un4.me/1SWX5SA
Recognizing the link between climate change and human rights is an important step towards protecting the fundamental rights of communities across the planet, according to a new United Nations report presented at the Paris climate meeting on 10 December 2015. Released on Human Rights Day, ahead of the finalization of a new climate agreement, the report provides a comprehensive study of the links between human rights law and climate change. It says that anthropogenic climate change is the largest, most pervasive threat to the natural environment and human rights of our time. The far-reaching environmental impacts of climate change are already being felt, posing a potential threat to human rights across the world, including the rights to health, food and an adequate standard of living.

Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence in Emergencies (UNFPA)
http://un4.me/1TTYjhF
Gender based violence is a life-threatening, global health and human rights issue that violates international human rights law and principles of gender equality. In emergencies, such as conflict or natural disasters, the risk of violence, exploitation and abuse is heightened, particularly for women and girls. UNFPA’s “Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to GBV in Emergencies (GBViE)” promote the safety and well-being of women and girls in emergencies and provide practical guidance on how to mitigate and prevent gender-based violence in emergencies and facilitate access to multi-sector services for survivors.

A UN report published on 8 December 2015 highlights a worrying clampdown on opposition, media and civil society in the DRC since the beginning of the year and stresses the need to guarantee political and civil rights ahead of key elections. The report, prepared by the United Nations Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNJHRO), documents human rights violations in relation with the electoral process between 1 January and 30 September 2015, including summary executions, death threats, arbitrary arrests and detention, excessive use of force by security forces, and restrictions of the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine, 16 August to 15 November 2015
http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/12thOHCHRreportUkraine.doc
In a conflict that has claimed more than 9,000 lives, the last few months have seen a significant reduction of hostilities in certain parts of eastern Ukraine, according to a UN Human Rights report released on 9 December 2015. Serious human rights concerns persist, however, including continuing impunity, torture and an absence of the rule of law in the east, as well as a difficult humanitarian situation for those living in the affected areas and for those internally displaced. The twelfth report by the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine states that the "ceasefire within the ceasefire" of 26 August led to a considerable decrease in hostilities, particularly due to the withdrawal of certain heavy weapons by the Ukrainian military and the armed groups. Between 16 August and 15 November, the time period covered by the report, 47 civilians were killed and 131 injured. The total death toll since mid-April last year is at least 9,098, with another 20,732 injured. Total figures include civilians, Ukrainian armed forces and armed groups.
Humanitarian Affairs

Global Humanitarian Overview 2016 (UNOCHA)
http://www.unocha.org/stateofaid/
http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/GHO2016.pdf
The outlook for 2016 is grim. Millions of civilians, uprooted from their homes by violent and prolonged conflict, will remain in desperate need of protection and humanitarian assistance. About 60 million people are displaced around the world, and more than a quarter of these displacements are due to the conflicts in Iraq, South Sudan and Syria. Conflict has scarred people’s lives, robbed them of dignity, and shattered economies, livelihoods and vital infrastructure, including health facilities and schools. Humanitarian partners require $20.1 billion to meet the needs of over 87.6 million people in 37 countries around the world.

Mapping the vulnerability of mountain peoples to food insecurity (FAO / Mountain Partnership)
http://www.fao.org/3/a-i5175e.pdf
While global hunger figures are decreasing, the number of food insecure people in mountain areas rose 30 percent between 2000 and 2012, according to a new study, released on 11 December 2015, International Mountain Day. found that the number of food insecure people living in mountain regions in developing countries grew to nearly 329 million in 2012, up from 253 million in 2000, even though the overall population of the world’s mountain peoples increased only by 16 percent during that same time. That means that one in three mountain people, both urban and rural, in developing countries faced hunger and malnutrition, compared to one out of nine people globally.

Multiple Forms of Migrant Precarity: Beyond “Management” of Migration to an Integrated Rights-Based Approach (UNRISD Events Brief 03, December 2015)
http://www.unrisd.org/eb3&utm_campaign=ebulletin_10_12_2015
In recent months, the media have been flooded with stories of migrants and refugees fleeing under great personal risk and hardship from war, conflict and poverty. The initial wave of solidarity and empathy by European citizens has quickly given way to policy approaches and a public attitude of crisis management and unfruitful attempts at burden sharing. The magnitude of what has been termed the “migrant crisis” requires an informed debate and careful analysis of the potential implications of current policy responses. With this mind, researchers, activists and experts from UN organizations met to discuss the outstanding challenges to overcoming migrant precariousness and moving a rights-based migration agenda forward.
New information material

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

Chronique ONU, Volume LII, Numéro 1 & 2, 2015 :
Online version: http://unchronicle.un.org/fr/issue/les-70-ans-des-nations-unies/

Online version: http://unchronicle.un.org/issue/united-nations-70/

United Nations Peacekeeping Brochure.
Learn quick facts and the numbers behind UN Peacekeeping Operations.

NEW TITLES
added to the library collection in December

II.D Trade, Finance and Commerce

The Least Developed Countries Report 2015: Transforming Rural Economies.

The Least Developed Countries Report 2015: Transforming Rural Economies; Overview.

Rapport 2015 sur les pays les moins avancés : Transformer l’économie rurale ; Aperçu général.

Rethinking Development Strategies after the Financial Crisis; Volume I: Making the Case for Policy Space.


II.E Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

L’eau et l’adaptation au changement climatique dans les bassins transfrontaliers : Leçons à retenir et bonnes pratiques.
Sales No. F.15.II.E.1.

Transport for Sustainable Development: The case of Inland Transport.

**III.H United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

État de la population mondiale 2015 : À l’abri dans la tourmente ; un programme porteur de changements pour les femmes et les filles d’un monde en crise.
Online version: [http://un4.me/1jM3ROI](http://un4.me/1jM3ROI)

State of the World Population 2015: Shelter from the Storm; A transformative agenda for women and girls in a crisis-prone world.
Online version: [http://un4.me/1NFGLIU](http://un4.me/1NFGLIU)

**V International Law**


**VIII Transport and Communications**

Recommandations relatives au transport des marchandises dangereuses : Manuel d’épreuves et de critères ; Sixième édition révisée.
