UNODC

and the 2030 Agenda:

A Practical Guide

UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

"We resolve, between now and 2030, to end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources."

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

A/Res/70/1

UNODC and the 2030 Agenda:

A Practical Guide

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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Acknowledgments

Section 1: An Introduction

The main purpose of this practical guide is to provide staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) with information that establishes a common ground and helps to ensure a coherent approach to mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) into the programmatic work of the Organisation, as well as supporting Member States in achieving their national SDG goals and targets.

With Results Based Management (RBM) forming the cornerstone of the 2030 Agenda, it is envisioned that this practical guide will be a supplement to the UNODC Handbook on Results Based Management and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which forms the basis of UNODC's Office wide RBM guidelines and principles. This document provides a step-by-step guide on how UNODC employees can apply and incorporate the principles of the 2030 Agenda into their everyday work, and how UNODC can best assist Member States to attain their national Sustainable Development Goals and targets.

After reading this guide, you should be able to:

- Understand the basic principles of the 2030 Agenda;
- Understand how the Sustainable Development Goals relate to the 2030 Agenda;
- Have an overview of UNODC's role in supporting the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development;
- Recognise the interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda and its Goals;
- Know how to link human rights and gender to UNODC's programmatic work;
- Be familiar with the structure of the High Level Political Forum;
- Understand how UNODC can support Member States in developing their National Voluntary Review;
- Understand the centrality of timely and quality data collection to enable reporting on progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda; and
- Be able to draft results narratives linking their programmatic work to the 2030 Agenda.

1.1 - An Introduction to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The origins of the United Nations' commitment to development go back to the UN Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972. The seminal issues that emerged from the Conference were the need to alleviate extreme poverty and protecting the environment. Given the Cold War context, however, the Conference was marred by divisions among countries. 20 years later, the UN's efforts to pursue sustainable development were reinvigorated with the adoption of the Agenda 21 (referring to the 21st Century) at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, a non-binding action plan to achieve global sustainable development. However, increased globalisation, widening inequalities, and continued environmental degradation were seen as key obstacles in attaining Agenda 21. As a result, the UN decided to develop the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of eight international development goals that had been established following the Millennium Summit held in 2000. The MDGs were formally brought into being with the adoption of the United

Nations Millennium Declaration (A/Res/55/2) in the same year, with the Member States committing to help achieve these goals by 2015. Although some advancements had been made in achieving the MDGs, it was found that progress had been uneven between countries, primarily as a result of its aid-driven funding model and focus on least developed/poor countries. In response, in 2012, the Secretary-General established the UN Task Team on the Post-2015 Development Agenda to deliberate on the way forward. The resulting process, known as the Post-2015 Agenda, culminated in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in 2012, where the Member States agreed to establish a working group to design the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals as a successor to the MDGs.

In September 2015, the international community adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (A/RES/70/1) at the Sustainable Development Summit held in New York. That adoption was the result of an inclusive process of negotiation and consultation among the 193 Member States of the United Nations, as well as members of the academic community, civil society and the general public, providing a comprehensive and universal framework for the United Nations in its work dedicated to development. The 2030 Agenda draws together various elements — namely peace, the rule of law, human rights and gender equality, development and equality — into a comprehensive and forward-looking framework. The Agenda is the most comprehensive blueprint to date to eliminate extreme poverty and hunger, reducing inequalities, and protecting the environment.

The 2030 Agenda consists of the following 4 sections:

1. A political declaration;
2. A set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets;
3. Means of implementation; and
4. A framework for follow up and review of the Agenda.

In addition, there are several core principles that underpin the 2030 Agenda. These include:

- **Universality:** The 2030 Agenda is universal in scope and commits all countries, irrespective of their income levels and development status, to contribute towards a comprehensive effort towards sustainable development. The Agenda is applicable in all countries, in all contexts, and at all times.
- **Leaving no one behind:** The 2030 Agenda seeks to benefit all people and commits to leave no one behind by reaching out to all people in need and deprivation, wherever they are, in a manner which targets their specific challenges and vulnerabilities. This generates an unprecedented demand for local and disaggregated data to analyse outcomes and track progress.
- **Interconnectedness and indivisibility:** The 2030 Agenda rests on the interconnected and indivisible nature of its 17 SDGs. It is crucial that all entities responsible for the implementation of SDGs treat them in their entirety instead of approaching them as a menu list of individual goals from which they pick and choose.
- **Inclusiveness:** The 2030 Agenda calls for the participation of all segments of society— irrespective of their race, gender, ethnicity, and identity—to contribute to its implementation.
- **Multi-stakeholder partnerships:** The 2030 Agenda calls for establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships for mobilising and sharing knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of SDGs in all countries.

- **National ownership:** National leadership, ownership and implementation lie at the heart of the 2030 Agenda.
- **The 5 P's - people, prosperity, planet, partnership and peace**: These five dimensions inform development policy decisions. This means that for a development intervention to be sustainable, it must take into account the social, economic, and environmental consequences it generates, and lead to conscious choices in terms of the trade-offs, synergies, and spin-offs it creates.

Box 1: MDGs vs 2030 Agenda

MDGs	2030 Agenda
• Aimed at least developed/poor countries • Developed by a small team of technocrats • Set of eight, broad goals • Aid driven funding • No focus on monitoring, evaluation and accountability	• Call on all countries, regardless of development level • Developed through an open working group in a participatory process • 17 comprehensive, universal goals • Focus on sustainable, inclusive economic development • Set of targets and indicators • Comprehensive reporting and review framework • Emphasis on national ownership

Further resources:

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (A/RES/70/1)

1.2 - The Sustainable Development Goals

While the 2030 Agenda can be seen as forming the vision and strategy that the Member States agreed on to achieve sustainable development, in other words, the why and the what, the Sustainable Development Goals present the objectives that the Member States committed to attain by 2030, in other words, the how (see Box 2). They are not a summary of the Agenda, but rather, focus areas necessary to achieve sustainable development. If one looks at the 2030 Agenda as a large, complex puzzle, the 17 SDGs form the puzzle pieces. Further, while it is crucial to look at this puzzle as a whole to truly understand the scope of the Agenda, each puzzle piece, or each SDG in this case, forms an integral part of the Agenda. At the same time, it is important to realise that the SDGs are a result of extensive and complex political negotiations and consultations, and thus, are not perfect. Rather, they are a representation of

the world's most urgent needs and priorities today and help us to translate the core values and principles underpinning the Agenda in concrete and measurable results.

Box 2: 2030 Agenda vs SDGs

The 2030 Agenda – the why and the what:

- The vision
- The plan of action
- Can be seen as a blueprint or strategy

The SDGs – the how:

- Global needs and priorities
- Set of objectives
- Means of implementation
- Help to measure results
- Build on MDGs
- Universal in nature

In order to measure these results, the SDGs are accompanied by a set of 169 targets and 231 corresponding indicators[1]. While 149 indicators have been agreed upon thus far, the other 80 remain work in progress. In order to differentiate between the indicators, a tier system has been established consisting of three tiers (see box 3). The indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (A/Res/68/261). The implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires a solid framework of indicators and statistical data to monitor progress, inform policy and ensure accountability of all stakeholders (A/RES/71/313).

Box 3: The Indicator Tiers

Tier Classification Criteria/Definitions:

Tier 1: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant.

Tier 2: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries.

Tier 3: No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.

Further resources:

Global SDG indicator framework

Global SDG indicators database

UN Stats Handbook on SDG Indicators

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[1] As not all targets and indicators were defined at the conception phase of the 2030 Agenda (see Box 3), work on further refining and adding to them is ongoing. The numbers listed here are accurate as of February 2019.

Section 2: UNODC's Role

2.1 - UNODC and the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda draws together various elements — namely peace, the rule of law, human rights and gender equality, development and equality — into a comprehensive and forward-looking framework and explicitly recognizes the interrelationship between sustainable development on the one hand, and the fight against drugs and crime (including corruption and terrorism) on the other.

The Agenda reflects a shift in global thinking on how crosscutting issues — including the rule of law and fair, effective and humane justice systems, as well as health-oriented responses to drug use — are enablers for development, and how their absence impedes development in countries of all income levels. Efforts at all levels will need to be holistic and inclusive, backed by multi-stakeholder partnerships and supported by an increase in policy coherence and mainstreaming, and a decrease in addressing crime prevention and drug control issues in silos which are not fully integrated into development plans. The strong connections between the rule of law, security and sustainable development increasingly require greater coordination and cooperation among national agencies as well as among United Nations entities.

UNODC actively supported the design of the 2030 Agenda and contributed to its contents through the technical support team for the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. Since then, the Office has taken several steps to ensure that it is well positioned to support Member States' efforts, at the normative, analytical and operational levels, to successfully implement the Agenda. Working closely with United Nations partners, regional entities, partner countries, multilateral and bilateral bodies, civil society, academia, private sector, the Office has and continues to support efforts at the global, regional, national and local levels, through its Vienna HQ and its network of field offices. With the mandate to make the world safer from drugs and crime, UNODC is committed to support the Member States in reaching their targets under the Sustainable Development Goals.

As the international focal point on crime and criminal justice statistics, UNODC has a unique role to play in supporting Member States in gathering, analysing and reporting progress made on many SDG targets, at the national, regional and global levels. In 2013 the 'Road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels'[2] was adopted by the UN Statistical Commission and the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Since then, a number of key tools and activities have been developed to improve statistical information and analyses at national and international level. On such basis, UNODC has been identified – alone or jointly with other organisations - as custodian agency for 15 indicators to monitor relevant SDG targets. This implies that UNODC is tasked for global monitoring, providing methodological guidance, and conducting technical assistance in relation to statistics underpinning SDG targets on public security and safety, trafficking, corruption, and access to justice.

In 2019, at the fiftieth session of the Statistical Commission, an updated road map [3] with a new workplan and a broader set of activities was adopted, aimed at the continuing improvement of

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[2] https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/743449/files/E_CN.3_2013_11-EN.pdf

[3] https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/50th-session/documents/2019-19-CrimeStats-E.pdf

the quality and availability of crime and criminal justice statistics, as highlighted in the original road map. The updated road map both responds to new priorities which emerged with the agreed targets and indicators under the Sustainable Development Goals; and continues to sustain a balance between initiatives that aim at developing and improving the methodology for measuring hidden forms of crime and initiatives designed to improve existing national statistical systems on crime.

Box 4: UNODC indicators

Target	Indicator	Possible Custodian Agency(ies)	Other Involved Agencies	Updated Tier Classification (by IAEG-SDG Members)
GOAL 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages				
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol	3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders	WHO, UNODC		Tier III
GOAL 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls				
5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNODC	UNSD, UNDP	Tier II
	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNODC	UNSD, UNDP	Tier II
GOAL 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries				
10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies	10.7.2 Number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people	DESA Population Division, IOM	World Bank, Global Migration Group, UNHCR, UNODC, OECD	Tier II
GOAL 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable				
11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities	11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	UNODC	UN Women, UN-Habitat	Tier III
GOAL 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss				
15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products	15.7.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (**15.c.1**)	UNODC, CITIES	UNEP	Tier II

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				
16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	UNODC, WHO	DESA Population Division	Tier I
	16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months	UNODC	UN Women, UNFPA, WHO	Tier II
	16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live	UNODC		Tier II
16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	UNODC		Tier II
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms	UNODC		Tier II
	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	UNODC		Tier I
16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime	16.4.1 Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars)	UNODC, UNCTAD		Tier III
	16.4.2 Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments	UNODC, UNODA		Tier II
16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms	16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months	UNODC		Tier II
	16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months	World Bank, UNODC		Tier II

Keeping in mind the central role that UNODC plays within the context of the 2030 Agenda as outlined above, the Secretary General's reform agenda [4] provides many opportunities for UNODC to strengthen how we deliver, take a critical look at what we deliver, and report on the results of our programmatic work. It has become apparent that we need to move away from the image of UNODC being purely a drug and law enforcement entity and show how the work that we deliver and expertise we provide contributes to achieving sustainable development and furthering the 2030 Agenda. Understanding the interlinked nature of the SDGs and how to help promote the UN's commitment to human rights and gender will be key to the way we present

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[4] The term *Secretary General's reform agenda* refers to Secretary-General António Guterres' proposals at the beginning of his term in early 2017 to reform the UN Secretariat's Development System, Management and Peace and Security Pillars, in order to improve the delivery of the Organisation's mandates. For more information on the reform please visit: https://reform.un.org/

UNODC's programmatic work. As an organisation, UNODC will need to respond more proactively to the needs of Member States and the most vulnerable among us.

2.2 - UNODC and Sustainable Development

Peace, justice, respect for the rule of law, and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions are at the core of sustainable development and inclusive economic growth, as stated in the 2030 Agenda. Going forward, there is a need to strengthen the link between UNODC's programmatic work and the Sustainable Development Goals. Member States, during discussions on the UN Development System Reform (especially in relation to the funding compact as well as the application of the 1% levy to all tightly earmarked voluntary contributions), have agreed to using the OECD/DAC to define all operational activities for development as being applicable to the UN System as a whole. [5] In this context, it is important to note that, based on the OECD/DAC's definition of Official Development Criteria (ODA), all of UNODC's technical assistance activities assisting Member States fall within the scope of development.[6]

It is clear that UNODC is not *only* a development-oriented entity. Its work and mandate spans across the three main pillars of the UN, namely peace & security, development and human rights. However, given the strong interlinkages within these three areas and the enabling environment that peace, security and respect for human rights bring for sustainable development, UNODC needs to communicate more clearly to Member States that it does not only work in the area of security, supply reduction, and law enforcement without considering other parts of the complex equations that go into finding sustainable development solutions. Sound, evidence-based, and whole-of-society interventions that seek to promote healthy, safe, just, inclusive and resilient communities are, therefore, critical to helping Member States to promote societies that are well equipped to achieve sustainable development.[7] It is especially important that UNODC staff use development-oriented language[8] in concept notes and project documents especially when pitching for funds to donors. At the same time, you will need to assess your project's/programme's contribution to the national development goals of the country/ies you are working in, to determine how you can support their national development targets. Further, your project/programme should address the needs identified in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)[9] or similar document in your country and be included herein. This will be vital in light of the UN Development System reform, which places utmost importance to increased coordination with RC and UN Country Team (CT) efforts towards the SDGs.

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[5] A/RES/72/279 - Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
[6] http://www.oecd.org/development/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/officialdevelopmentassistancedefinitionandcoverage.htm
[7] http://www.unodc.org/documents/SDGs/Note_on_Justice_Security_and_post_2015_final.pdf
[8] See information box: Peace and Security - Development Nexus
[9] For more on UNDAFs refer to section 3.3

Box 5: The Peace and Security - Development Nexus

With an increased emphasis on prevention in the work of the UN, there is a greater understanding of how violent extremism, economic shocks, intolerance, environmental risks and conflicts, social tensions, droughts and famines lead to a situation of increased vulnerability and risk. The UN and its partners have, therefore, become cognisant of the need to **build resilience in order to achieve sustainable peace and development**. From UNODC's perspective, resilience building should be framed through the lens of SDG 16: sustainable development through the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, the provision of access to justice, and the building of accountable and inclusive institutions. In achieving the latter, it will be useful for UNODC projects and programmes to incorporate the following considerations:

- Resilience building and crisis prevention as the basis of UNODC's work;
- Enhancing strategic and operational, analytical and planning capabilities;
- Engaging local and national stakeholders to ensure more people-centred, inclusive and nationally owned interventions;
- Strengthening state administration, especially in the areas of rule of law and security; and
- Promoting inclusion and social cohesion at all levels.

Questions to keep in mind when formulating concept notes and project documents:

• How does your project/programme support Member States to achieve their development goals?

• How does your project/programme relate to the UNSDCF's of the countries you are covering, and what linkages can be made to the, in particular to the CTs and the RCs?

• Have relevant RCs been consulted when drafting the country or regional programme to ensure alignment with the UNDAF?

• Can your proposed interventions be used to define Joint Programmes with other UN entities, to be submitted to the RC for funding through the Joint SDG Fund or other pooled funding mechanisms?

• How does your project/programme contribute to attaining the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably, does it include elements of data collection, analysis and reporting against national and global level SDG indicators?

Further resources:

UNODC position paper: Security, the Rule of Law and the post-2015 Development Agenda

2.3 - The interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda and its SDGs are a strategic framework that demands that Member States and its partners address the indivisible nature of the agenda – a highly interconnected web – and to the fact that progress on one Goal or Target should ideally reinforce another. We cannot focus on single Goals or a select set of Goals without considering how these interact with the SDGs overall. Transitioning towards more sustainable and resilient societies requires a cohesive approach that recognizes that these challenges, and their solutions, are interrelated.

Understanding how the SDGs are interlinked should make for better policies and more effective action to attain sustainable development targets. Consider the following:

- Achieving one target can be **dependent** on another – ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels (16.7) is **dependent on** ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life (5.5), and vice versa;
- One target **imposes conditions** on another – take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna, and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products (15.7) **conditions** the […] combat[ting] [of] all forms of organized crime (16.4);
- Progress on one target **reinforces** progress on another – ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for […] promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence […] (4.7) **facilitates** the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels […] (16.3).

Box 6: The SDGs as an Interlinked Web

What do these linkages mean for strategic planning and project design?

- The need for seeing the big picture up front - the interrelationships that matter; we need to ensure that every new project we develop at least consider the linkages it can make with other ongoing projects in a particular office/region as also with global programmes.
- The need to work with like-minded partners from within the UN family, public or private sector, civil society, as this will foster an inter-sectoral and multi-disciplinary approach, highlighting interlinkages and interconnections that cannot be tackled by one entity in isolation.
- The need to examine goals from multiple perspectives, including, critically, from the perspective of rights holders; and
- The need for broad ownership of the whole agenda and understanding the interdependencies between targets.

2.4 - Human rights and gender as core components of our work

The integration of equality, human rights, gender, and social determinants into UNODC policies, programmes, and institutional mechanisms will be vital in upholding the ideals at the heart of the SDGs, that seek to empower women and men, reduce inequalities between and among populations and promote human rights. The SDGs reaffirm the indivisible nature of economic, social, and cultural rights, on the one hand, and civil and political rights, on the other, and the mutually reinforcing nature of these rights on sustainable development and peace. When drafting concept notes and project documents, be mindful of adhering to UNODC human rights and gender guidelines and policies.[10]

Human Rights

Human rights are at the core of all the work of the UN system and – together with peace & security, and development – represent one of the three interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations enshrined in the Charter. UNODC is in the unique position of working across all three pillars, and it is crucial that we apply a holistic approach to our programmatic work in the areas of human rights, security, and development.

A key element of mainstreaming the promotion of human rights in the work of UNODC is the incorporation of a human rights-based approach to development cooperation and technical assistance programming. A human rights-based approach implies a conscious and systematic integration of human rights and human rights principles in all aspects of programming work. In particular, when applied to programming, a human rights-based approach should include a focus on the promotion of equality and non-discrimination, ensuring the participation and inclusion of disadvantaged groups, and strengthening state accountability concerning its human rights obligations. Where relevant, it must also be ensured that project managers consider the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on UN support to non-UN security forces (HRDDP). The HRDDP sets out measures that all United Nations entities must take in order to ensure that any support that they may provide to non-United Nations forces is consistent with the purposes and

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[10] Refer to the list of reference documents at the end of this document.

principles of the UN Charter. These measures include conducting risk assessments to decide whether to provide support to non-UN security forces, monitoring the human rights situation, applying mitigation measures and, in extreme cases, withdrawing support. At all stages of the programme cycle and for all programmes, the overall aim is to enhance service delivery by UNODC through the strengthening of state capacity to respect, protect, and promote human rights, particularly in the areas of justice, security, and health. In practice, this means considering all programming actions not only from the perspective of the immediate project or programme goals but also from the perspective of whether actions improve state capacity, observance, and fulfilment of human rights, in line with the 2030 Agenda and universally recognized human rights conventions.[11]

Questions to keep in mind when formulating concept notes and project documents:

- What are the main aspects of the human rights situation in the country/region you are covering?
- Are there any risks that we need to be aware of when designing our projects and programmes?
- What safeguards or monitoring will be in place to ensure that work under the project does not inadvertently feed into human rights violations, particularly where non-UN security forces are involved (for the latter, see the UN's Human Rights Due Diligence Policy)?
- How will you ensure the integration of human rights and human rights principles in all aspects of your project/programme (adhering to a human-rights-based approach)?

Gender

UNODC has also committed to systematically and effectively mainstreaming gender and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in our programmatic activities and organizational policies and practices. Understanding the relationship between mandate areas and gender is vital to the overall effectiveness of any response. [12] The UNODC strategic framework commits staff to mainstream gender concerns into the three pillars of the work programme of UNODC (normative work, research and analytical work, and field-based technical assistance work).[13] Gender mainstreaming is a strategy for making women's and men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women, men, boys and girls benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.[14] In order to achieve this, UNODC has committed to the following:

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[11] For more information, please refer to UNODC's position paper on human rights:
https://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/UNODC_Human_rights_position_paper_2012.pdf
[12] Refer to the Guidance Note for UNODC Staff on "Gender Mainstreaming in the work of UNODC"
[13] For more information, please refer to UNODC's Strategy for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women:
https://www.unodc.org/documents/Gender/UNOV-UNODC_Strategy_for_Gender_Equality_and_the_Empowerment_of_Women_2018-2021_FINAL.pdf
[14] In accordance with Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2

- Defining and supporting gender-related SDG results in strategic planning;
- Reporting on gender-related results;
- Delivering programmatic results on gender equality and the empowerment of women; and
- Evaluating performance in a gender-responsive manner and evaluate gender equality-targeted performance in particular.

Questions to keep in mind when formulating concept notes and project documents:

- Is the project based on data and evidence gathered in a gender-sensitive manner?
- Did the collection and analysis of sex-disaggregated data reveal any differential impact of an action on women and men?
- What are the implications of the project for women and men[15] and how do they differ?
- What do gender-based power structures in the country/region you are covering look like, i.e. access to resources, services and rights by women and men?
- What are the key issues related to the empowerment of women and gender equality that are being addressed by your project/programme?
- How will the project bring about improvements for women as well as men?

Further resources:

UNODC Position Paper on Human Rights

Drug control, crime prevention and criminal justice - A Human Rights perspective

Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender Equality – Evaluation and Planning

UNODC Guidance Note on Gender mainstreaming in the work of UNODC

UNODC's Strategy for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

Mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

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[15] For purposes of this Guidance Note, the terms "women" and "men" will be used but will implicitly refer to males and females of various ages.

Section 3: How We Can Support Member States

As mentioned, the 2030 Agenda explicitly recognises the interrelationship between sustainable development on the one hand, and threats from crime, corruption, drugs and terrorism on the other. The strong connections between the rule of law, security and sustainable development, increasingly require greater coordination and cooperation among national agencies as well as among United Nations entities. UNODC, with its specific mandates and experience in mobilizing transnational cooperation, is working together with other stakeholders, Member States, UN agencies as well as others, in order to help Member States to both better understand the nature of the threats they face, and to address these threats within the context of their development goals, plans and strategies. The following section will provide an overview of the most relevant mechanisms that allow us to contribute to furthering Member States' efforts in this regard.

3.1 - The High-Level Political Forum

Governments have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review, at the national, regional and global levels, in relation to the progress made in implementing the 2030 Agenda's Goals and targets. The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which meets annually in July for eight days under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), has the central role in overseeing follow-up and review at the global level (A/Res/70/1). Every four years the HLPF also meets under the auspices of the UN General Assembly at the level of heads of state and government. Accordingly, in 2019 the HLPF will meet twice, in July under the auspices of ECOSOC, when the VNRs will be presented, and in September under the auspices of General Assembly. The HLPF provides for the full and effective participation of all States members of the United Nations and States members of specialised agencies (A/RES/67/290 and A/Res/70/299). In addition, since 2017, the HLPF assesses progress made on selected SDGs on an annual basis.

There are several reporting mechanisms that feed into the HLPF itself. These include:

- The Voluntary National Reviews (Member State led)
  - Regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven

- The National SDG Reports/Reviews (Member State led)

- The Regional Reviews (UN Regional Commissions)
  - Review of challenges and shared progress at the regional level

- The Thematic Reviews:
  - Thematic reviews in line with each year's theme
  - Usually in the form of side events and open to the Member States, UN entities, regional bodies and other stakeholders

- The Annual Sustainable Development Goals Report (UNDESA)

- o Based on the global SDG indicator framework and using data produced by national statistical systems, it assesses progress against the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda at the global level.[16]

- The Quadrennial Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) (UNDESA)
  - o An integrated, cross-cutting and evidence-driven analysis of sustainable development policies and their implementation
  - o The next GSDR is scheduled to be presented at the HLPF in 2019

In addition, the HLPF receives strategic guidance and direction from the following bodies under the auspices of the UN Statistical Commission:
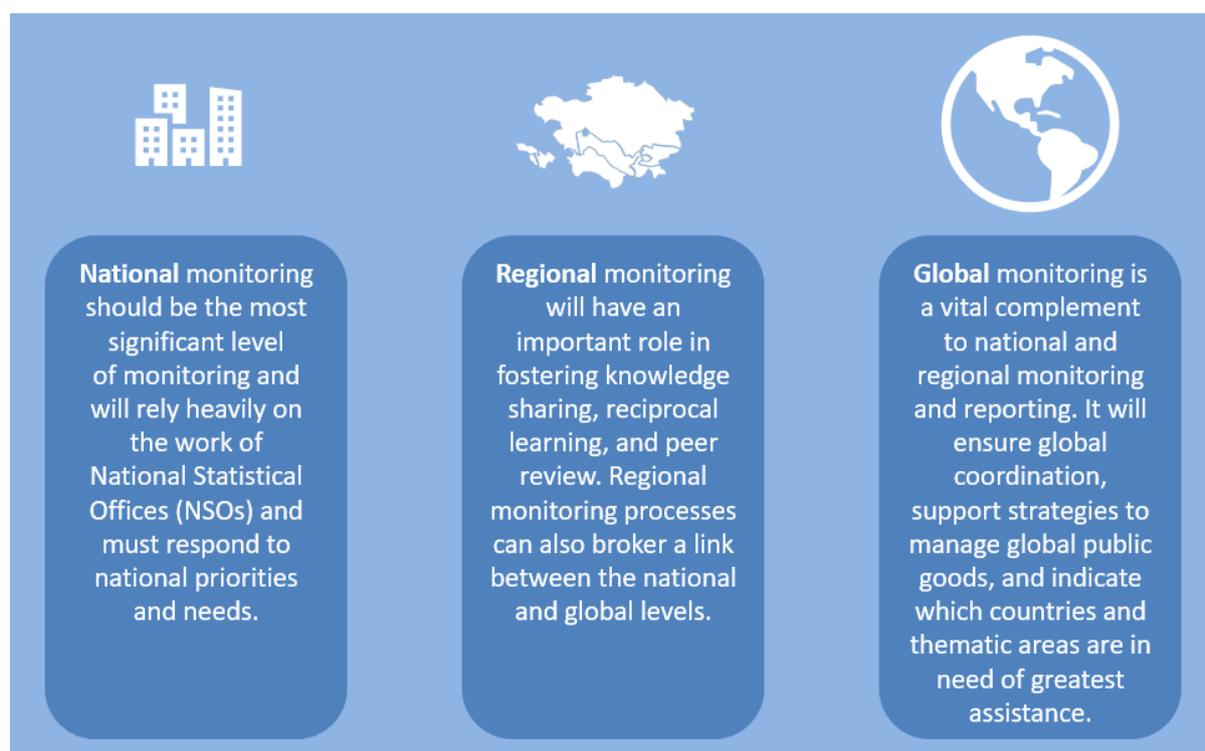
- The Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG)
- The High-Level Group for partnerships, coordination and capacity building for statistics (HLG)

**Box 7: The 2030 Agenda Overview, Review and Follow Up Mechanisms**

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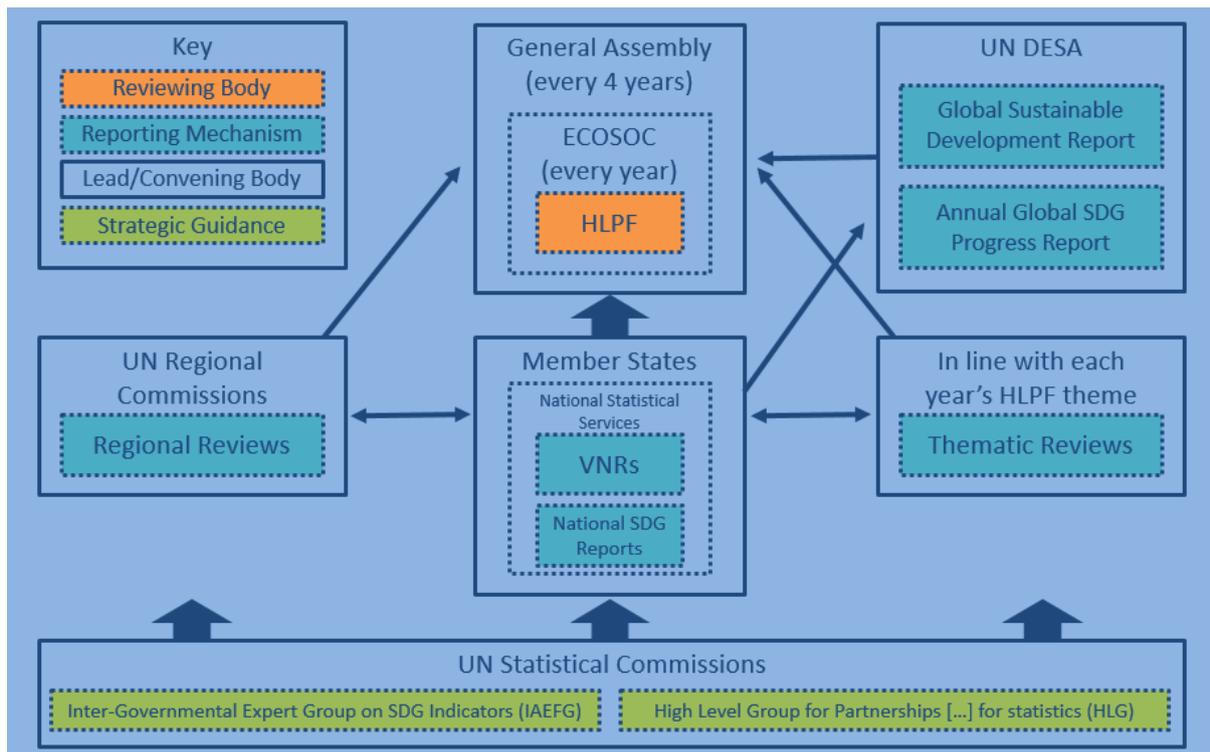
[16] The annual Sustainable Development Goals Report

Box 8: Global, Regional and National Monitoring

National monitoring should be the most significant level of monitoring and will rely heavily on the work of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and must respond to national priorities and needs.

Regional monitoring will have an important role in fostering knowledge sharing, reciprocal learning, and peer review. Regional monitoring processes can also broker a link between the national and global levels.

Global monitoring is a vital complement to national and regional monitoring and reporting. It will ensure global coordination, support strategies to manage global public goods, and indicate which countries and thematic areas are in need of greatest assistance.

Given the importance of the HLPF in the 2030 Agenda review calendar, and its crucial role in taking stock of achievements in implementing the Agenda and identifying solutions to challenges faced, it is important that UNODC understands its role and obligations vis-à-vis Member States. While it is important that UNODC capitalises on the opportunity to highlight it's work and mandate areas as forming a key part of efforts to support the Member States in attaining the 2030 Agenda, colleagues must also assess how they can directly contribute to the review processes related to HLPF. In this regard, it is particularly important to highlight the role that UNODC's regional desks and field offices can play in participating in and informing the regional sustainable development fora hosted by the UN economic commissions, which deliberate on key successes and identifying possible solutions to challenges faced with regard to the regional implementation of the Agenda. Equally important is UNODC's role in informing the Thematic Reviews, the Annual Sustainable Development Goals Report, and the Quadrennial Global Sustainable Development Report. A further area that provides a potential for leveraging UNODC's expertise is the SDG expert group meeting organised in the run-up to HLPF. Every year, these meetings bring together UN, civil society, the private sector, and other partners to identify key successes and challenges faced with regard to attaining specific Goals being reviewed that year. By way of an example, the below graphic illustrates the timeline for the 2019 HLPF, highlighting select events of particular relevance to UNODC.

Box 9: HLPF timeline 2019
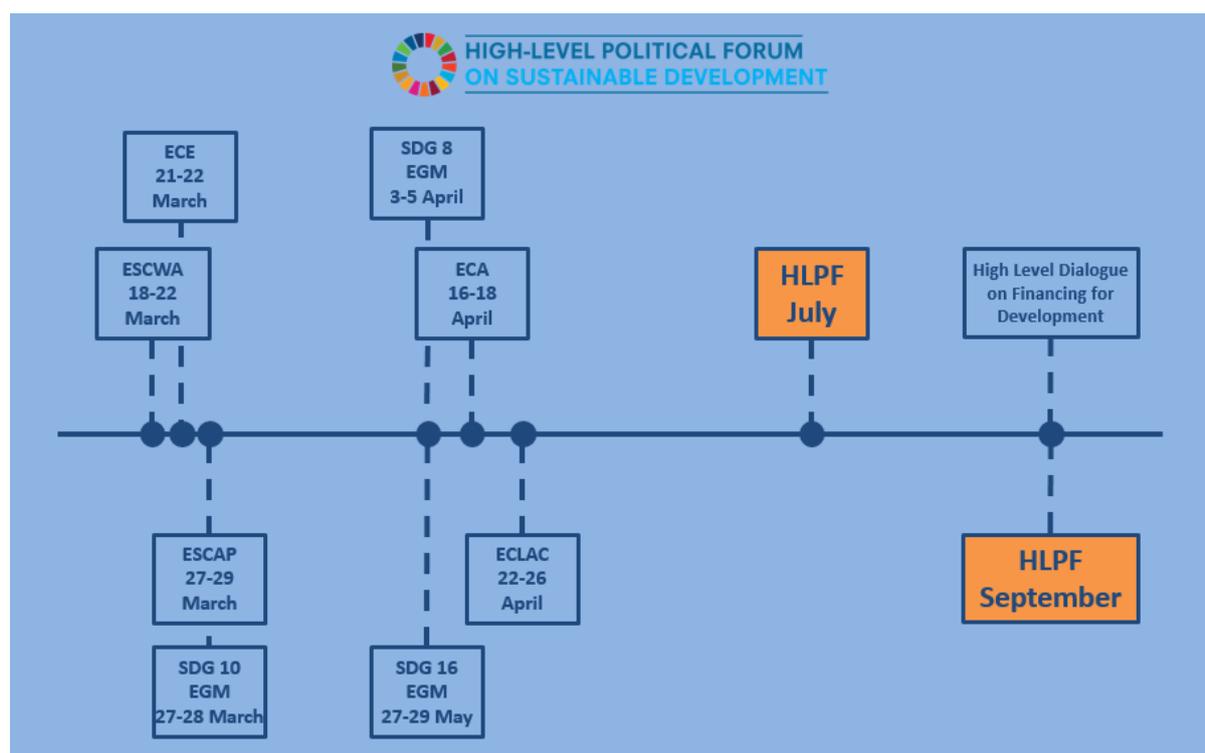
With regard to providing direct support to Member States in preparing their national reports to be presented at HLPF, the following section provides further guidance as to the role that UNODC can play in supporting this particular process.

Further resources:

General information on the High Level Political Forum

3.2 - Voluntary National Review (VNR)

The VNRs, which report on the country-level implementation of the 2030 Agenda and which are presented annually at the HLPF, form the cornerstone of the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda. As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, the 2030 Agenda encourages Member States to "conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven" (A/RES/70/1, paragraph 79). These national reviews are expected to serve as a basis for the regular reviews by the HLPF. As stipulated in paragraph 84 of the 2030 Agenda (A/RES/70/1), regular reviews by the HLPF are to be voluntary, state-led, undertaken by both developed and developing countries, and shall provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders.

The VNRs aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs

also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The process of carrying out the voluntary national review should not be seen as separate from the implementation of the SDGs. Rather than an end in itself, the VNRs are a process by which countries take stock of and assess progress – and shortcomings – in the implementation of the Goals and targets.

As VNRs are state-led, they are prepared by governments in a consultative, inclusive and participatory process involving all major groups and other stakeholders. This includes all sectors and levels of government, civil society, the private sector, members of Parliament and other institutions. At the national level, Member States decide on which institution will lead the VNR. They are also encouraged to involve stakeholders in the national voluntary reviews in accordance with paragraphs 78 and 79 of General Assembly Resolution 70/1. The specific modalities for engagement are likely to vary from country to country and are to be decided by the national governments.

The process of conducting a VNR typically consists of several broad phases, with some occurring at the same time. These include the following: initial preparation and organisation; VNR preparation, including stakeholder engagement; and HLPF presentation. As mentioned previously, one of the founding principles of the 2030 Agenda is the requirement for all implementation and follow-up processes to be participatory and inclusive, including all levels and sectors of government, civil society and the private sector, members of parliament national human rights institutions, among others. This participation and consultation build wider societal ownership of the 2030 Agenda at the national level.

Depending on requests for support by countries for the preparation of their reviews, UN entities will work with countries to identify countries' needs and provide capacity building in these areas. It is important to note that any such requests for support are likely to be made via the UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinators. See the graphic below for an illustration of the VNR process.

Box 10: The VNR Process
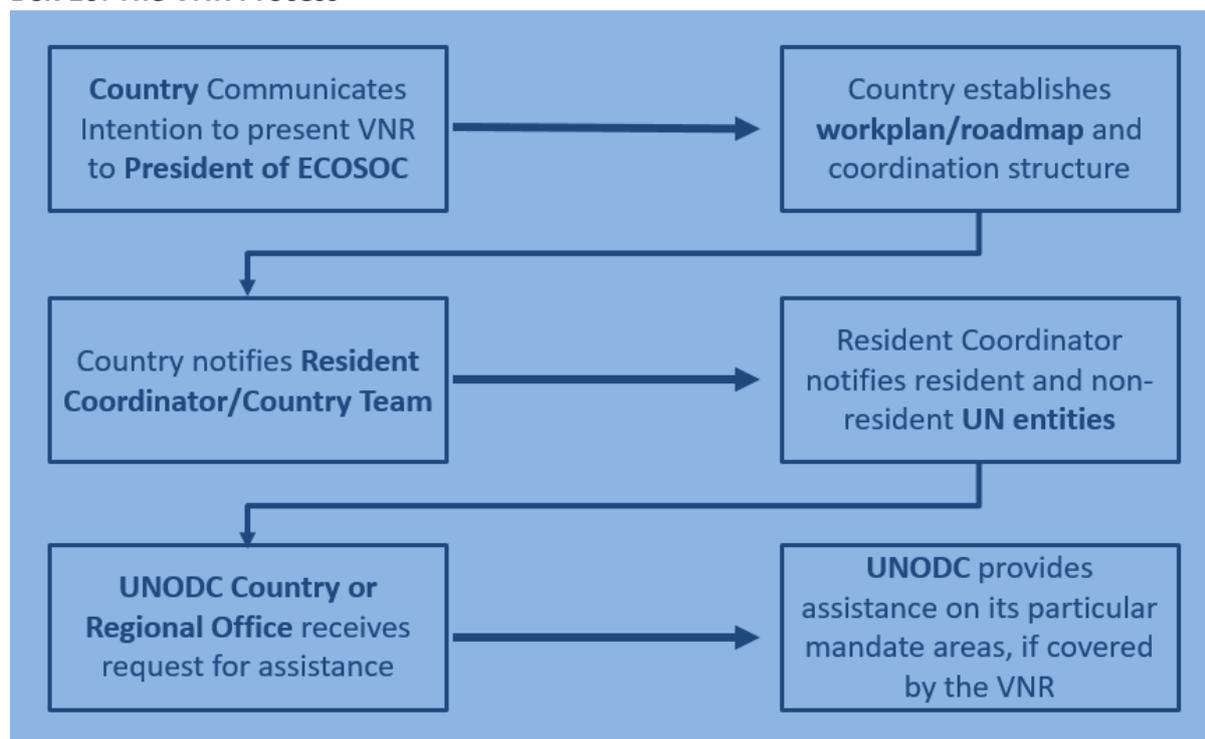
Further resources:

UNODC Guidance Note: SDG 16+ as an enabling goal - supporting national authorities to produce VNRs

General information on the VNRs

VNR database

Handbook for the preparation of VNRs

VNR Synthesis Report 2016

VNR Synthesis Report 2017

VNR Synthesis Report 2018

3.3 - Quality and Timely Data

Quality and timely data are vital for enabling governments, international organisations, civil society, the private sector and the general public to make informed decisions and to ensure the accountability of representative bodies. Effective planning, follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of an unprecedented amount of data and statistics at local, national, regional and global levels and by multiple stakeholders. The Agenda explicitly calls for enhancing capacity

building in the area of data collection and analysis to support national plans to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

National statistical systems face the urgent need to adapt and develop in order to meet the widening, increasing and evolving needs of data users, including for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda. There is a wide range of statistical capacity among countries, with individual countries setting their own national priorities, with some countries facing steeper challenges than others. Capacity building on data collection and analysis is important for all countries, even more so for developing countries, particularly in Africa, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries and other countries in vulnerable situations. Efforts aimed at modernising and strengthening national statistical capacities will require the full, active, and focused commitment of government policy leaders and the international community.

Box 11: UNODCs Role in Supporting Quality and Timely Data
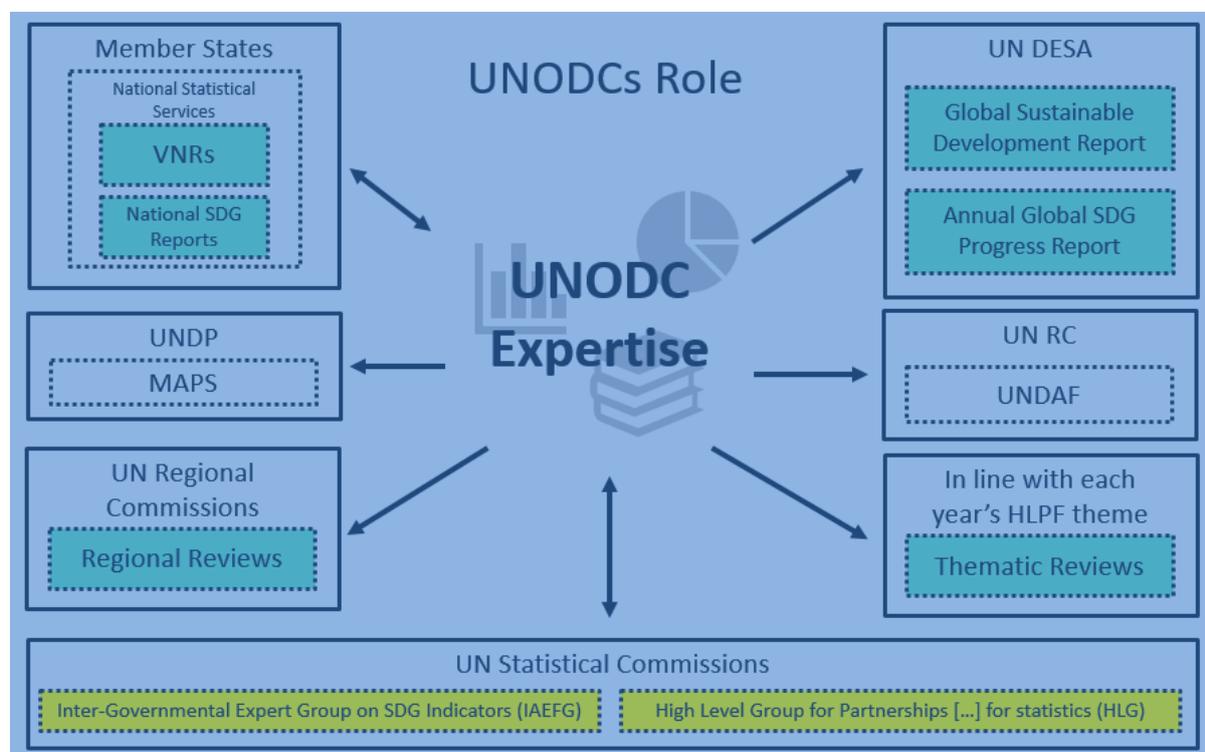
A key component of UNODC's work is to support Member States in developing evidence-based policies to undertake targeted interventions to achieve the SDGs, and SDG 16 in particular. Recognising that SDG 16 acts as a unifying framework and enabling goal for the 2030 Agenda as a whole, there is a need to underscore the link between peace, security, inclusion, justice and sustainable well-being. It is therefore crucial to convey to the Member States that the data that they produce on SDGs goes hand in hand with effective and targeted policy development, and moreover, that UNODC can provide targeted technical advice that will allow them to do so.

In monitoring progress on the SDGs, Member States need to analyse trends and patterns with the objective of identifying successes, challenges, emerging issues and lessons learned on each

of the SDG's targets. This should be done based on relevant indicators identified during the process of SDG localization as well as by using global SDG indicators, when available. Member States seeking to report on the SDGs should collect and make use of relevant statistics primarily from national statistical systems, report data and trends disaggregated at the geographical level and according to other disaggregating variables.

Within the context of UNODC mandate areas, national data and analysis should be able to speak about the experience and the impact of violence, trafficking, corruption, and justice with a gender-sensitive approach (i.e. making visible how they affect men and women differently, as victims, perpetrators or in any other capacity) and with focus on various population groups such as children, minorities, people who use drugs, and persons in prison who could be more at risk of facing the challenges related to Goal 16, in particular. Wherever relevant, Member States should also experiment with innovative technologies and methodologies to track SDG implementation, using big data and artificial intelligence.

The picture drawn by using available data, both comprehensive and with a specific focus on selected topics, should set the stage for reviewing the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda, for example by conducting a VNR, where policies and programs developed and implemented by the Member States will be presented and discussed at HLPF. Therefore, UNODC and its ongoing programmes in Member State countries could assist in identifying accelerators of progress that deal with those SDGs covered by UNODC's mandates and make suggestions for developing and implementing concrete policies to address identified challenges.

To conclude, the process of monitoring progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda ought to be based on robust data and analysis that conforms to international standards. In addition to using this data to measure progress, countries should also be able to demonstrate how they are using this knowledge to create and assess policies and programmes designed to meet the targets that have been prioritized at the national level. The Member States would also be best advised to demonstrate how they are taking steps to ensure that their efforts are not rigidly segmented into sector-specific silos but take a holistic view of the universal and unified Agenda for Sustainable Development. VNRs are important learning opportunities for the international community and should, therefore, also share lessons learnt from setbacks and from success in overcoming challenges. Finally, the VNRs should include specific recommendations both in the areas of monitoring and for policy development.

UNODC, along with its sister agencies, can play an important role to assist the Member States, upon request, in creating processes that result in truly valuable VNRs that thus pave the way to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030. With its wide range of mandates and expertise spanning health, justice, corruption, violence prevention, prevention of trafficking in persons and firearms, smuggling of migrants, preventing money laundering and leakage of public resources out of the country, UNODC is ideally positioned to assist countries in creating and implementing comprehensive programmes geared towards attaining progress towards both the global indicators of the SDGs and context-specific nationalised indicators.

Further resources:

Sustainable Development Goal indicators website

Global SDG Indicators Database

Data collection Information & Focal points

Harnessing the power of data for sustainable development - SDG Report 2017

Data for Development: A Needs Assessment for SDG Monitoring and Statistical Capacity Development

Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data

Section 4: How to Tell Your Story

4.1 - Drafting an SDG Narrative

The 2030 Agenda calls for efforts at all levels to be holistic and inclusive, and supported by an increase in policy coherence and mainstreaming and a decrease in addressing crime prevention and drug control issues in silos.

For UNODC programme managers, this means that they must not only demonstrate how their projects and programmes are aligned with UNODC's overall strategic plan (Strategic Framework or the Programme Plan and Performance Information[17]), but they must also establish how these projects and programmes contribute towards achieving the national SDG targets of Member States, and wherever possible, the global level Goal targets and indicators, as well as the 2030 Agenda as a whole.

Box 12: Interlinking UNODC with the 2030 Agenda
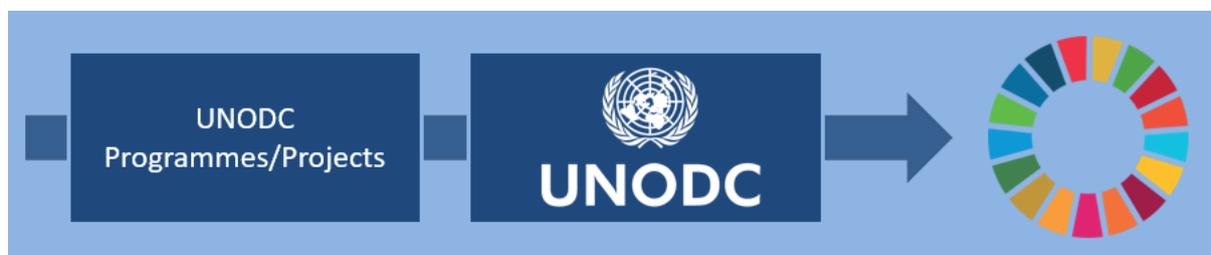
4.2 - Why create SDG Narratives?

In order to tie UNODC's work into a larger framework of sustainable development, it is essential for its programme/project documents, reports as well as advocacy materials to include an SDG narrative that demonstrates how its initiatives contribute the SDGs and explain the interlinkages among them. In this sense, the 2030 Agenda does not change the way we work but helps us to locate and communicate what we do in the larger context of national and global priorities on sustainable development. Particularly, SDG narratives can:

1. Help in understanding and conveying how UNODC contributes to the various interlinked SDGs. Given the increased focus on the UN Sustainable Development Group in the Secretary-General's reform agenda, securing participation in UNSDG structures will become of paramount importance for UNODC. Being able to report how we contribute to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals will, therefore, be crucial.
2. Help Member States in conducting VNRs, and readily include UNODC's contributions to achieving their national SDG targets.
3. Be useful to prepare for participating in HLPF and other events that review progress made on SDGs.

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[17] Insert link to budget reform document

4.3 - Elements of a Good SDG Narrative

While drafting any material – web stories, reports, news updates or project/programme documents, it is crucial to include SDG narratives, i.e. narratives that draw direct links between UNODC's work and its contribution to the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda as a whole. In doing so, a good SDG narrative should answer both, the *what* and the *how*, i.e. it should not simply list down the SDG targets a particular intervention contributes to, but it should also demonstrate how the intervention does so, while also demonstrating the various interlinkages between the targets themselves[18].

In order to draft an effective SDG narrative, you should be able to answer the following questions through your text:

Situation Analysis	• What challenges are/were being faced? • What are/were the root causes? • Who is/was being affected?
Intervention/Objective	• What opportunities are/were present? • How does the project propose to address this challenge/how was the challenge addressed?
Validation	• What outcomes must be sought/were achieved? • How will/did this contribute to the achievement of the SDGs? • What are/were the interlinkages between the various SDG targets?[19]

You may also wish to consider the following:

✓ Wherever possible, integrate language from the 2030 Agenda, SDGs, Targets and Indicators into the narrative.
✓ Keep country context and priorities in mind. For regional and country programmes, language from UNDAFs could also be integrated into the narrative.
✓ Mention any partnerships on SDG implementation.
✓ For regional and country programmes, include any support provided to the Member States on VNRs, or any relevant results and/or challenges highlighted in them.

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[18] For examples on interlinkages refer to section 1.3.
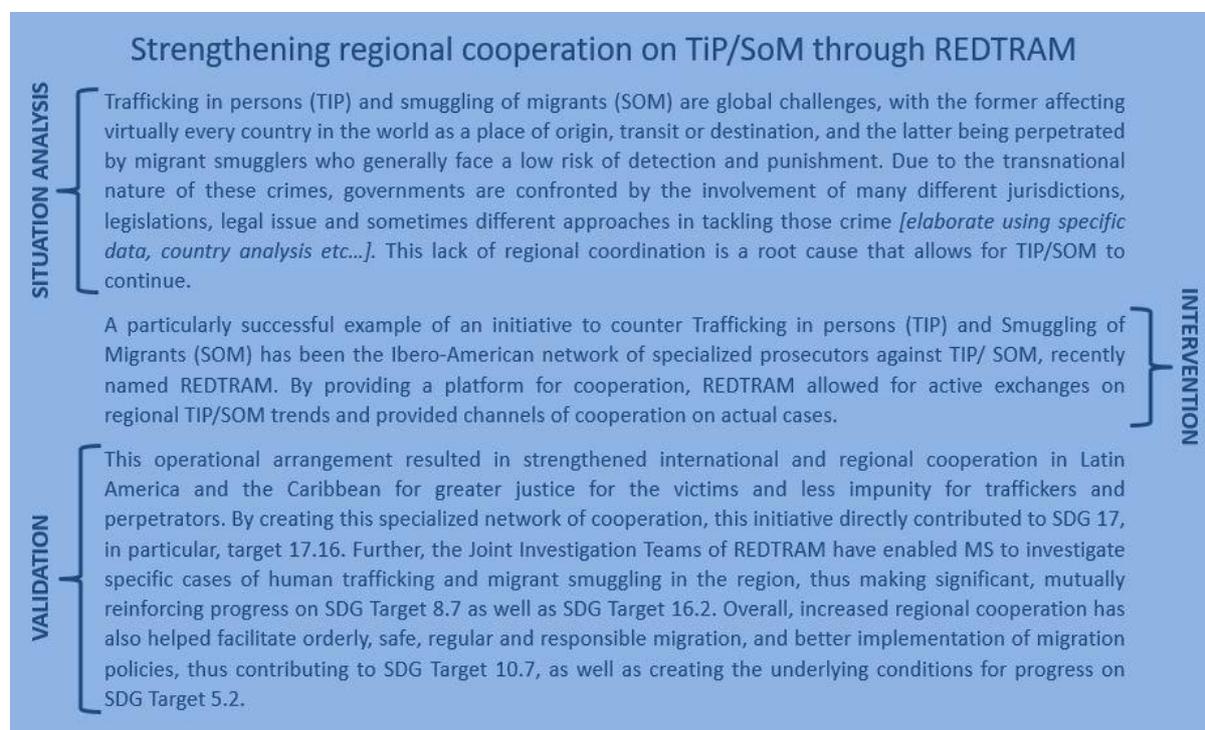[19] Ibid.

Box 12: SDG Related Human Interest Stories

When writing pieces for advocacy purposes, human interest stories are a promising additional tool to explain UNODC's work contributed to the SDGs to a broader public in a concise, descriptive and captivating way. Such stories enable readers to understand the real and tangible impact of UNODC's work on human lives and communities. An effective human-interest story should be able to answer the following questions:

- Set the scene: Who was affected? Where did it happen? What were the local circumstances?
- What was the issue?
- What action was taken to resolve the issue?
- Who took action? (How was UNODC involved? One sentence only.)
- What was the result of this action?
- Did it solve the issue or what are follow up steps or lessons learned? (One sentence only.)

Good examples can be found in the Annual Report 2017 on pages 55/29 /61/59/21/23 and in the Annual Report of the SG on the Work of the Organization.

Box 13: An Example of an SDG Narrative

Strengthening regional cooperation on TiP/SoM through REDTRAM

SITUATION ANALYSIS

Trafficking in persons (TIP) and smuggling of migrants (SOM) are global challenges, with the former affecting virtually every country in the world as a place of origin, transit or destination, and the latter being perpetrated by migrant smugglers who generally face a low risk of detection and punishment. Due to the transnational nature of these crimes, governments are confronted by the involvement of many different jurisdictions, legislations, legal issue and sometimes different approaches in tackling those crime *[elaborate using specific data, country analysis etc...]*. This lack of regional coordination is a root cause that allows for TIP/SOM to continue.

INTERVENTION

A particularly successful example of an initiative to counter Trafficking in persons (TIP) and Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) has been the Ibero-American network of specialized prosecutors against TIP/ SOM, recently named REDTRAM. By providing a platform for cooperation, REDTRAM allowed for active exchanges on regional TIP/SOM trends and provided channels of cooperation on actual cases.

VALIDATION

This operational arrangement resulted in strengthened international and regional cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean for greater justice for the victims and less impunity for traffickers and perpetrators. By creating this specialized network of cooperation, this initiative directly contributed to SDG 17, in particular, target 17.16. Further, the Joint Investigation Teams of REDTRAM have enabled MS to investigate specific cases of human trafficking and migrant smuggling in the region, thus making significant, mutually reinforcing progress on SDG Target 8.7 as well as SDG Target 16.2. Overall, increased regional cooperation has also helped facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration, and better implementation of migration policies, thus contributing to SDG Target 10.7, as well as creating the underlying conditions for progress on SDG Target 5.2.

Further resources:

Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform

Official SDG website with communication material

UNODC Handbook on Results-Based Management and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Brochure on UNODC and the SDGs

UNODC SDG Factsheet

A list of SDG indicators with UNODC involvement

UNODC tools and publications relevant to the SDGs 2018

Annexes

A more comprehensive set of UNODC tailored resources on the 2030 Agenda is also available here (on the OneDrive). Also see the SPIA intranet page on the 2030 Agenda here.