SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING FOR 2030 - FOR EVERYONE ALL OVER THE WORLD

Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda direct the promotion of sustainable development in all parts of the world until 2030. Also in Finland.

The aim of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN Member States and the 2030 Agenda is to eradicate extreme poverty and ensure sustainable development in all dimensions: economy, the environment and well-being.

They are based on eight Millennium Development Goals that were to be achieved by 2015 and the Rio agenda, which dealt with environmental and development issues. They proved that results can be achieved through a joint commitment: Extreme poverty was halved ahead of schedule and more than two billion people have gained access to clean drinking water. In addition, nine out of ten children in the world enroll in primary school. However, development has been unequal.

The new goals and agenda make up an even broader and more ambitious whole. The focus in the Millennium Development Goals was on developing countries, while the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda also place responsibilities on industrial countries like Finland.

PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS

The key question with the goals is how solutions promoting sustainable development are applied in practice and how progress is measured. The 2030 Agenda contains 17 goals and 169 targets. There are more than 200 common indicators. Another key question is the financing of sustainable solutions.

Basically, the whole society including individual citizens, companies, municipalities, the Government and other actors, can take action to promote and finance sustainable development. Official development aid still plays an important role especially in supporting the least developed countries, and even they receive funding from different sources. It is important to increase the countries’ own resources.

An important milestone was the Addis Ababa Action Agenda agreed in July 2015.

States committed themselves to carrying out policy changes that among others strengthen tax systems, support company investments and seek to stop illegal money flows. These actions are also supported through Finland’s development cooperation and development policy.

WHAT DOES FINLAND DO?

Finland is one of the first countries that introduced national objectives, actions and a monitoring and assessment system for achieving the UN goals. Finland is also closely engaged in the international monitoring of the 2030 Agenda.

In global terms, Finland promotes the goals and Agenda especially through development policy and cooperation efforts, which are an important point of departure in Finland’s development policy guidelines.

Important goals in Finland include promoting sustainable consumption and production and equality. One tool in use is the Society’s Commitment to Sustainable Development, through which the various actors in the society can contribute to implementing the world’s common development plan in their fields of operation.

HOW CAN YOU PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

DID YOU KNOW?

Finland has contributed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In Ethiopia, for instance, which is one of Finland’s long-term partner countries, Finnish aid has provided three million people access to clean water.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

Sustainable development is about social change that secures opportunities for a good life for the existing and future generations so that natural resources, for instance, are not consumed more than the earth is capable of producing.

The environment, man and economy are taken into consideration equally in decision-making and actions.

THREE DIMENSIONS:
1) ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY
2) ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY
3) SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

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HOW CAN YOU PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?
1. END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE
   • Eradicate extreme poverty (for people living on less than $1.25 a day) and reduce at least by half the proportion of people living in poverty according to national definitions.
   • Ensure that all people have access to social security and insurance cover and equal rights to economic resources, basic services and natural resources, for example.

2. END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE
   • End hunger and malnutrition and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food.
   • Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, for instance, and strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change.

3. ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES
   • Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births. End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age.
   • End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, for example.
   • Prevent substance abuse. Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2020.
   • Support research and development and ensure that all people have access to affordable essential medicines.

4. ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
   • Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education.
   • Ensure equal access for all girls and boys to quality pre-primary education and for all to affordable and quality vocational and tertiary education.

5. ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS
   • Eliminate all forms of discrimination, violence and harmful practices against women and girls everywhere, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation.
   • Promote sexual and reproductive health.
   • Ensure and give women equal rights to economic resources, basic services and natural resources, for example.

6. ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL
   • Achieve universal and equitable access to clean drinking water and adequate sanitation and hygiene for all.
   • Improve water quality, increase water-use efficiency and protect water-related ecosystems.

7. ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL
   • Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, increase the share of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency.
   • Facilitate access to clean energy research and technology and their availability and improve the energy infrastructure.

8. PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL
   • Sustain per capita economic growth and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries. Improve the sustainable use of natural resources.
   • Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all. By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.
   • Eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and child labour.

9. BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALISATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION
   • Develop quality, reliable and sustainable infrastructure.
   • Raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product and double its share in least developed countries.
   • Increase the efficient use of resources and promote the use of clean technologies and processes.
   • Increase scientific research and encourage innovations.

10. REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES
    • Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average, irrespective of age.
    • Promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age.
    • Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions. Encourage official development assistance and financial flows to developing countries.

11. MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE
    • Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing, basic services and a sustainable transport system.
    • Protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.
    • Reduce the adverse environmental impact of cities.

12. ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS
    • Make sustainable, efficient use of natural resources. Halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains.
    • By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil.

13. TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS
    • Strengthen adaptive capacity to climate change in all countries.
    • Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning and raise awareness of climate change.
    • Mobilise $100 billion annually by 2020 for mitigating climate change in the developing countries.

14. CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
    • Reduce marine pollution, sustainably protect and manage marine and coastal ecosystems.
    • End overfishing and conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas by 2020.

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
    • By 2020, ensure the conservation and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems, such as mountains and freshwater areas, and promote the sustainable use of them and forests. Combat desertification.
    • Halve the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species. End poaching of protected species of flora and fauna.

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
    • Significantly reduce all forms of violence everywhere. Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.
    • Significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, corruption and bribery.
    • Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration.

17. STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALISE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
    • Improve the domestic capacity of developing countries for tax and other revenue collection. Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt financing and debt relief.
    • Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, with a view to doubling the least developed countries’ share of global exports by 2020.
    • Developed countries must implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of GNI to least developed countries.