Trade Union Reference Manual on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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Sustainable Development Goals

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Preface

With the phasing out of the Millennium Development Goals, the ILO Bureau for Workers’ Activities (ACTRAV) actively engaged in the negotiations on the Post-2015 development agenda. Our main objective was to get governments to adopt decent work as one of the stand-alone goals of the 2015 development agenda. This objective was achieved when UN Member States adopted in September 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with Goal 8 devoted to “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”.

The 2030 Agenda fundamentally seeks to achieve a shift in development towards one that eradicates extreme poverty and is sustainable, inclusive as well as rights-based. This agenda seeks to ensure a transformative change in both developing and developed countries. Most importantly, through the follow-up and review component of the 2030 Agenda, countries are invited to develop national sustainable development strategies, through participatory processes with civil society, including trade unions. The 2030 Agenda therefore offers trade unions a platform to engage in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national sustainable development strategies.

This reference manual, seeks to assist trade union leaders, members and sympathizers, in their engagement in these national strategies for sustainable development. It is not a manual that provides a “one-size-fits-all” approach to engaging in the 2030 Agenda. It is a reference manual that presents the 2030 Agenda in its different components and one that identifies a set of priority Targets and Indicators that trade unions may wish to consider in their national situations. It is also a manual that identifies opportunities and challenges facing trade unions in their engagement in national economic and social policy-making and one that draws on lessons learnt from past trade union engagement in such processes. In conclusion, this manual serves as a source of reference for trade unions on matters to do with the 2030 Agenda and also a source of ideas on areas that trade unions could envisage in engaging in the 2030 Agenda.

As the 2030 Agenda is a 15 year development framework, it is my hope that this reference manual will be a useful tool for trade unions over this period. ACTRAV is committed to providing support to trade unions engaged in this area of work. We invite national trade unions to contact the ACTRAV specialist closest to them should they need any assistance from the ILO. My warm appreciation goes to all colleagues in ACTRAV who contributed to the drafting of this important tool.

Maria Helena Andre
Director, ACTRAV
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Using the reference manual on SDGs

This reference manual is a tool to introduce the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to trade unions. It aims particularly, at providing trade unionists engaged in national sustainable development processes, with a detailed understanding of the 2030 Agenda, and the opportunities the goals, targets and indicators provide to advance trade union objectives.

You are therefore invited to go through the different components of the 2030 Agenda and the list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Note that each Goal is linked to a set of Targets and Indicators. Trade unions are invited to pay particular attention to Goal 8 which seeks to “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all” as this goal deals with matters of labour and decent work. However, given the fact that Decent Work is mainstreamed throughout the SDGs, it is also important for readers to consider other SDG Targets outside Goal 8, that are equally relevant to Decent Work.

The reference manual is divided into three main sections. The first section is about understanding the 2030 Agenda and its different components. Reading this section is necessary in order to understand the origins, components and goals under the 2030 Agenda.

The second section helps to assess what in the SDGs is most relevant for trade unions or for the national situations. The reference manual presents the 17 SDGs in detail. The presentation of each goal is followed by a brief introduction of some key issues concerning the goal, and where data exists, some benchmarks in achievement linked to some of the targets under the goal. This is followed by a table which presents a list of the priority targets that trade unions may wish to pay particular attention to, together with their indicators to measure progress.

Finally, as we place a lot of importance on the rights-based approach to development, one has under this section a list of some instruments from the ILO or the body of human rights that are relevant to the goal. One must stress that the proposed priority targets are only indicative in nature. Each national trade union must determine for itself what the priority goals, targets and indicators should be, taking into consideration the specific challenges being faced in their country. These Targets must be considered as entry-points to advance trade union positions and advocacy strategies.

After understanding the 2030 Agenda and assessing its relevant parts, the third section is about trade union action. Each trade union must develop its own SDG strategic plan. In developing this plan, this section provides an interactive menu to assist trade unions assess the opportunities and challenges they may face in engaging in the SDG process at national level. The menu of issues also helps trade unions refine their strategic plan based on lessons learnt from past experiences of trade union engagement in national socio-economic policy-making.
Introduction to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development


Origins of the 2030 Agenda

The origins of this new global development framework can be found in the convergence of two complimentary global processes. Firstly, the Millennium Summit Declaration2 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and secondly, successive United Nations Conferences on the environment. In the year 2000, the United Nations adopted the MDGs as the main development framework for the international system. A set of 8 goals were adopted and 2015 was earmarked as the target date for their attainment. The approach of this target date called for a Post-2015 framework to replace the MDGs.

Parallel to this process, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), building on previous UN Conferences on the Environment, stated in its Outcome Document3 that “We recognize that the development of goals could also be useful for pursuing focused and coherent action on sustainable development. We further recognize the importance and utility of a set of sustainable development goals, based on


Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, which fully respect all the Rio Principles, taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and priorities, are consistent with international law, build upon commitments already made and contribute to the full implementation of the outcomes of all major summits in the economic, social and environmental fields, including the present outcome document. The goals should address and incorporate in a balanced way all three dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages. They should be coherent with and integrated into the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015, thus contributing to the achievement of sustainable development and serving as a driver for implementation and mainstreaming of sustainable development in the United Nations system as a whole.” (§246)

It is against this background of a convergence of the Post-MDG and the Post-Rio+20 processes, that negotiations opened on a new post-2015 development agenda that would lead to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Nature of the 2030 Agenda

The SDG framework goes far beyond the MDGs. Alongside basic development objectives like ending poverty and hunger, it sets out a wide range of economic, social and environmental objectives in an integrated approach based on human rights. The 2030 Agenda's Goals and Targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, developing and developed alike. They balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely the economic, the social and the environmental. They pledge that no one will be left behind.
THE DECLARATION
Vision, Shared Prosperity and Commitments,
A Call for Action to Change our World

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 Goals, 169 Targets and Indicators

FOLLOW-UP AND REVIEW
At National, Regional and Global levels

IMPLEMENTATION
Means of Implementation and Global Partnerships

Key Components of the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development consists of 6 key components namely, a Declaration, 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of 169 Targets linked to each goal, set of Indicators linked to each Target to measure progress in implementation, the Means of Implementation of the Agenda, and finally, a Review and Follow-up component.

The Declaration

In the Declaration, Heads of State and Government committed themselves to “achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner” and to “…build upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seek to address their unfinished business.” (§2)

In the vision of the Declaration, they set out a “…supremely ambitious and transformational vision. We envisage a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive. We envisage a world free of fear and violence” (§7) This vision included the following:

- We envisage a world free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive. We envisage a world free of fear and violence. (§7)

We envisage a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination; (§8)

- We envisage a world in which every country enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all. (§9)

The Declaration based the new Agenda on shared principles and commitments, namely, the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the Declaration on the Right to Development and the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits. (§10, §11)

In implementing the 2030 Agenda, governments pledged that “no one will be left behind” and governments “will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first”. (§4)

17 Sustainable Development Goals

In the 2030 Agenda, governments “adopted a historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Goals and targets.”(§2) These Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the main global objectives of the 2030 Agenda.
So between now and 2030, the SDGs seek among other things “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. … to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all, taking into account different levels of national development and capacities.”(§3) The full list of the Goals can be found below. These 17 SDGs are seen as integrated and indivisible and reflect the three dimensions of sustainable development.

169 Targets

Alongside each global Goal is a set of targets. These targets are defined as aspirational global targets, with each government setting its own national targets guided by the global level of ambition. The realisation of each of these targets is expected to contribute to the attainment of the Goals. A total of 169 targets were agreed upon to ensure the achievement of the 17 Goals. Both the goals and targets integrate the linkages between economic, social and environmental aspects which are necessary to achieving sustainable development.

Indicators

The SDGs which are accompanied by targets are further elaborated through a set of indicators focused on measurable outcomes. These indicators are action oriented, global in nature and universally applicable. The indicators provide a means to measure progress in achieving the targets and therefore contribute to the preparation of annual progress reports on the SDGs.

In a number of cases, one multipurpose indicator was appropriate to measure progress of a target. In other instances where targets covered several elements, more than one indicator was proposed for each target. Furthermore, it was recognised that in a number of cases, the indicators proposed did not cover all the multiple aspects of the target and so in the long term, efforts had to be made in the statistical community to develop other indicators to complement the existing ones or improve upon them. This means that in the long term, the indicators may evolve further as other internationally agreed methodologies are developed and new indicators are adopted to complement the existing ones.

Considering that a key tenet of the 2030 Agenda is that no one is to be left behind, an effort was made to ensure that the indicators are disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

The global indicator framework will be complemented by indicators developed at the regional and national levels by UN Member States.

Means of Implementation

The 2030 Agenda also provides for a revitalised global partnership to ensure implementation. This partnership is captured in the 2030 Agenda as the means of implementation and is found in Goal 17 as well as under each of the other Sustainable Development Goals. The means of implementation is further reinforced by the outcome document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa in July 2015. This outcome document, also known as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda⁴, complements the proposed means of implementation.

The means of implementation cover finance, technology and capacity development.

Some of the key elements of the means of implementation focus on the following areas:

- **Nationally-owned sustainable development strategies** supported by mobilisation and effective use of domestic resource mobilisation, respect for each country’s policy space and enhanced by an enabling international environment.

- International public finance to complement national efforts, including through **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**. Providers of ODA reaffirmed their commitments, “including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries” (§43).

- **Private business** activity, as a driver for inclusive growth and job creation. While calling on businesses to apply their creativity to solving sustainable development challenges, the 2030 Agenda goes on to state that governments “… will foster a dynamic and well-functioning business sector, while protecting labour rights and environmental and health standards in accordance with relevant international standards and agreements and other ongoing initiatives in this regard, such as the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights17 and the labour standards of the International Labour Organization,...” (§67).

- **International trade** as an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction.

- **Long-term debt sustainability** through coordinated policies aimed at debt financing, debt relief, debt restructuring and sound debt management.

- **A Technology Facilitation Mechanism** in order to ensure among other things, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms.

- **Addressing systemic risks** (like environmental challenges, world financial and economic crises, challenges in global economic governance, excessive volatility of commodity prices, international migration, all forms of violence, terrorism, crime, and human trafficking) and promoting **policy coherence** of multilateral financial, investment, trade, and development policy and environment institutions.

**Follow-up and Review**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is committed to a systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda over the next 15 years. The follow-up and review at all levels will be guided by a set of **principles** which include the following:

- **They will be voluntary and country-led**, will take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and will respect policy space and priorities. As national ownership is key to achieving sustainable development, the outcome from national-level processes will be the foundation for reviews at the regional and global levels, … (§74a)

- **They will track progress in implementing the universal Goals and targets**, including the means of implementation, in all countries … (§74b)

- **They will be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people and will support reporting by all relevant stakeholders** (§74d)

- **They will be people-centred, gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind** (§74e)
The follow-up and review will take place at national, regional and global levels.

At the **national level**, Member States are encouraged to “… develop as soon as practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. These can support the transition to the Sustainable Development Goals and build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies, as appropriate.**(§78)** In accordance with the principles of the follow-up and review, these national planning and implementation processes should “… be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people and will support reporting by all relevant stakeholders”**(§74d)** including trade unions.

Member States are also encouraged to “… conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and subnational levels which are country-led and country-driven. Such reviews should draw on contributions from indigenous peoples, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders”**(§79)** including trade unions.

Trade unions are therefore called to participate actively in these national follow-up and review processes on the SDGs with a view to promote and defend workers’ rights and the interests of the poor and vulnerable. Trade union participation should particularly focus on Goal 8 on “Inclusive Growth and Decent Work” and other decent work Targets found under other Goals. Trade union engagement in national SDG processes should be throughout the entire national processes: from planning, to implementation, to monitoring, to review and to reporting on country achievements in implementing the SDGs.

The follow-up and review envisaged at the **regional level** provides opportunities for “peer learning, including through voluntary reviews, sharing of best practices and discussion on shared target”.**(§80)**

At the **global level**, the follow-up and review gives a central role to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) working through the UN General Assembly and the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The HLPF is tasked with the following: “It will facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, and provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for follow-up. It will promote system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies. It should ensure that the Agenda remains relevant and ambitious and should focus on the assessment of progress, achievements and challenges faced by developed and developing countries as well as new and emerging issues.”**(§82)** The HLPF meet under the auspices of the General Assembly every four years and under the ECOSOC in intervening years.

The work of the HLPF will be informed by:

- an annual progress report on the SDGs to be prepared by the UN Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system, based on the indicators

- the **Global Sustainable Development Report**, to provide a strong evidence-based instrument to support policymakers in promoting sustainable development

- regular reviews, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013. Reviews will be voluntary, while encouraging reporting, and include developed and developing countries as well as relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector.**(§84)**

- thematic reviews of progress on the SDGs, including cross-cutting issues

- the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the means of implementation of the SDGs

The HLPF “will support participation in follow-up and review processes by the major
groups and other relevant stakeholders in line with resolution 67/290.” (§89) This opens the door for the participation of the Major Group on “Workers and Trade Unions” in the follow-up and review process at the global level.

Since the first United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992 it was recognized that achieving sustainable development would require the active participation of all sectors of society. Drawing upon this sentiment, nine sectors of society were formalized as the main channels through which broad participation would be facilitated in UN activities related to sustainable development. These are officially called “Major Groups” and include the following sectors: Women; Children and Youth; Indigenous Peoples; Non-Governmental Organizations; Local Authorities; Workers and Trade Unions; Business and Industry; Scientific and Technological Community; Farmers. The Major Group on “Workers and Trade Unions” is coordinated by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).
The Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

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

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

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.
Goal 1
End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 1
End poverty in all its forms everywhere

1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day

1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions

1.b Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions
Goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda calls for an end to poverty in all its forms and in all regions of the world. It underlines the right to social security which is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It also calls for everyone, particularly the poor, to have equal rights to, and ownership of productive resources as well as access to basic services.

**Extreme poverty** or absolute poverty can be defined as “severe deprivation of basic human needs”. Since 1990 the World Bank has systematically tried to determine a global poverty line, based on a measure of income poverty, which would determine the extent of extreme poverty in the world. The methodology used is based on national poverty lines converted using purchasing power parity (PPP) exchange rates (i.e. the same quantity of goods and services priced equivalently across countries and converted into a common currency, namely US$)\(^1\). So the global poverty line of $1.25 a day which was set in 2005, is used in Target 1.1 under this Goal. However, in October 2015 the updated global poverty line measuring extreme poverty was set at $1.90 by the World Bank. It is important to underline that despite changes in the figure, the real value of $1.90 in today’s prices is the same as $1.25 in 2005 prices. This global poverty line will continue to change in the future.

According to the most recent World Bank estimates, in 2012, 896 million people lived in extreme poverty in the world on less than $1.90 a day. So 12.7 percent of the world’s population lived in extreme poverty in 2012. So while the world met the Millennium Development Goal to cut the 1990 extreme poverty rate by half, the extent of extreme poverty in the world is still unacceptably high.

**While extreme poverty rates have declined globally, the progress has been uneven.** Most of the decline is attributed to declines in extreme poverty in China. Between 1981 and 2011, 753 million people moved above the $1.90 extreme poverty threshold in China. Most of the extreme poverty in the world can be found in Sub-Saharan Africa and in South Asia. According to the latest estimates, in 2012 South Asia had 309 million people in extreme poverty while Sub-Saharan Africa harboured 388.7 million people. So just over 77.8% of the extreme poor lived in both regions. The estimates also showed that in 2012, 147 million of the extreme poor lived in East Asia and the Pacific while 44 million lived in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Eastern Europe and Central Asia combined.

While the global poverty line is important for international comparison and tracking of progress made in eradicating extreme poverty, your country's national poverty line is more appropriate for advocacy and policy engagement. Furthermore, while Target 1.1 focuses on extreme poverty, Target 1.2 calls for a reduction of at least by half of persons living in poverty according to national definitions. This Target therefore means that the task of eradicating poverty is not limited to low-income countries. Middle Income Countries and Developed countries are also called to reduce the levels of poverty in their countries based on their nationally defined poverty lines.

Whereas Middle-Income countries tend to fix a moderate poverty line of between $1.90 PPP and $3.10 PPP per capita per day, developed countries fix a relative poverty line which is set at 60 per cent of a country’s relative median disposable income. Target 1.2 is relevant to all these countries as it calls for a reduction of at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions, by 2030.

All the definitions of poverty mentioned above are income-based poverty measurements. However it is important to state that poverty is multidimensional. It covers a whole range of other issues besides the incomes of the

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poor. It relates to basic needs such as access to food, shelter, drinking water, education or health and extends to the enjoyment of basic human rights such as non-discrimination, freedom from forced labour and the right to organise.

One of the key causes of poverty is the denial of the right to social security enshrined in article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The lack of adequate levels of social protection is associated with high and chronic poverty, insufficient investment in human capital and weak automatic stabilizers of aggregate demand in case of economic crises. According to ILO estimates², in 2012, only 27% of the world’s working-age population and their families had access to comprehensive social security systems. This means that 73% of the world’s population or some 5.2 billion people do not enjoy access to comprehensive social protection – they are covered only partially or not at all.

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### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 1

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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day</td>
<td>1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
<td>1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable</td>
<td>1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, and distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims, and the poor and the vulnerable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance</td>
<td>1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters</td>
<td>1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions</td>
<td>1.a.1 Proportion of resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)</td>
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Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 1

**ILO:**

All ILO Standards contribute to the attainment of Goal 1. Particular reference can however be made to the following:

- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)
- Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention, 1962 (No. 117)
- Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)
- Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)
- ILO, World Social Protection Report 2014/15
- Declaration concerning the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organisation -Declaration of Philadelphia

**Human Rights instruments:**

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

**NOTES:**

- What is the national poverty line in your country?
- What can trade unions do to contribute to the attainment of Target 1.1 and 1.2?
- What is the coverage of social protection in your country?
- What can trade unions do to increase the coverage of social protection both vertically and horizontally?
Goal 2
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 2
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.

2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.
Goal 2 aims to end hunger and malnutrition by 2030. It seeks to ensure universal access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food, particularly of the poor, all year round. It also seeks to double incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly women, including through securing equal access to productive resources.

Thanks to the Millennium Development Goals, progress has been made in the fight against global hunger. In the period of 2005-2007, the FAO estimated global hunger at 837 million people. Today, 795 million people worldwide still lack regular access to adequate amounts of dietary energy. If current trends continue, the zero hunger target will be largely missed by 2030. So urgent and determined action is needed to eradicate global hunger by 2030.

According to the Hunger Statistics of the World Food Programme1:

1. Some 795 million people in the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy active life. That’s about one in nine people on earth.

2. The vast majority of the world’s hungry people live in developing countries, where 12.9 percent of the population is undernourished.

3. Asia is the continent with the most hungry people - two thirds of the total. The percentage in southern Asia has fallen in recent years but in western Asia it has increased slightly.

4. Sub-Saharan Africa is the region with the highest prevalence (percentage of population) of hunger. One person in four there is undernourished.

5. Poor nutrition causes nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five - 3.1 million children each year.

6. One out of six children -- roughly 100 million -- in developing countries is underweight.

7. One in four of the world’s children are stunted. In developing countries the proportion can rise to one in three.

8. If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, the number of hungry in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million.

9. 66 million primary school-age children attend classes hungry across the developing world, with 23 million in Africa alone.

10. WFP calculates that US$3.2 billion is needed per year to reach all 66 million hungry school-age children.

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1 https://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats
### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 2

**ILO:**
- Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 11)
- Rural Workers’ Organisations Convention, 1975 (No. 141)
- Rural Workers’ Organisations Recommendation, 1975 (No. 149)
- Seafarers’ Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185)
- Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)
- Plantations Convention, 1958 (No. 110)
- Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)
- Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (Agriculture) Convention, 1951 (No. 99)
- Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184)
- Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)
- Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)
- All the fundamental conventions

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
NOTES:

• What is the level of hunger and malnutrition in your country?

• What can trade unions do to contribute to the attainment of Targets 2.1 and 2.3?

• Does your trade union defend the interests of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers? If not, why not? If yes, how?
Goal 3
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 3
Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births

3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births

3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents

3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate
Goal 3 seeks to ensure healthy lives and well-being of all persons at every stage of their lives. It addresses all major health priorities, calls for universal health coverage for all, increased health financing to secure the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce, and strengthened capacity of all countries in health risk reduction and management.

3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all.

3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.

3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.

The UN report on progress towards the SDGs paints a picture of progress in the attainment of health goals from the MDGs till now. Some of the salient trends are the following:

- Thanks to the MDGs, the incidence of major infectious diseases, including HIV, tuberculosis and malaria, has declined globally since 2000. Globally in 2015, the number of new HIV infections among all people was 0.3 new infections per 1,000 uninfected people; 2.1 million people became newly infected that year. The incidence of HIV was highest in sub-Saharan Africa, with 1.5 new cases per 1,000 uninfected people.

- In 2014, 9.6 million new cases of tuberculosis (133 cases per 100,000 people) were reported worldwide, with 58 per cent of them in South-Eastern Asia and the Western Pacific.

- Almost half the world’s population is at risk of malaria and, in 2015, the incidence rate was 91 new cases per 1,000 people at risk, an estimated total of 214 million cases. Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 89 per cent of all malaria cases worldwide, with an incidence rate of 235 cases per 1,000 people at risk. In 2014, at least 1.7 billion people, in 185 countries, required treatment for at least one neglected tropical disease.

- Thanks to the MDGs, between 2000 and 2015, the global maternal mortality ratio, or number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births, declined by 37 per cent, to an estimated ratio of 216 per 100,000 live births in 2015. Globally, 3 out of 4 births were assisted by skilled health-care personnel in 2015. Under-five mortality rates fell rapidly from 2000 to 2015, declining by 44 per cent globally. Nevertheless, an estimated 5.9 million children under the age of 5 died in 2015.

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1 UN, Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Report of the Secretary-General, High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, pp. 5-7.
with a global under-five mortality rate of 43 per 1,000 live births. The neonatal mortality rate, that is, the likelihood of dying in the first 28 days of life, declined from 31 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 19 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2015. Over that period, progress in the rate of child survival among children aged 1 to 59 months outpaced advances in reducing neonatal mortality; as a result, neonatal deaths now represent a larger share (45 per cent) of all under-five deaths.

- In the area of preventing unintended pregnancy worldwide, in 2015, approximately 3 in 4 women of reproductive age (15 to 49 years of age) who were married or in union satisfied their need for family planning by using modern contraceptive methods; in sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania, however, the share was less than half. Childbearing in adolescence has steadily declined in almost all regions, but wide disparities persist: in 2015, the birth rate among adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 ranged from 7 births per 1,000 girls in Eastern Asia to 102 births per 1,000 girls in sub-Saharan Africa.

- Total official flows from all providers for medical research and basic health sectors were $8.9 billion in 2014. Within this total, official development assistance (ODA) from DAC donors was $4.5 billion in 2014, an increase of 20 per cent in real terms since 2010. In 2014, $1 billion was spent on malaria control and $1.2 billion was spent on other infectious diseases, excluding AIDS.

- Of all deaths among persons under the age of 70, commonly referred to as premature deaths, an estimated 52 per cent were as a result of non-communicable diseases. Over three quarters of premature deaths were caused by cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease. Globally, premature mortality from those four main categories of non-communicable disease declined by 15 per cent between 2000 and 2012.

This Goal is clearly also tied in to Goal 1.3 on achieving adequate social protection for all. Furthermore, Target 3c underlines the crucial importance of recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries if this goal is to be achieved. This includes ensuring decent working conditions for workers in the health sector including their right to organise and bargain collectively.
## Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 1,000 population</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, noncommunicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.8.2 Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe WASH services)</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 3

**ILO:**
- Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)
- Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)
- Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)
- Occupational Cancer Convention, 1974 (No. 139)
- Working Environment (Air Pollution, Noise and Vibration) Convention, 1977 (No. 148)
- Asbestos Convention, 1986 (No. 162)
- Chemicals Convention, 1990 (No. 170)
- Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

- Nursing Personnel Convention, 1977 (No. 149)
- Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)
- Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)
- HIV and AIDS Recommendation, 2010 (No. 200)
NOTES:

• What is the state of epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases causing premature deaths (cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease) in your country?

• To what extent is universal health coverage achieved in your country and what are the challenges?

• What contribution can trade unions make to ensure a drastic reduction in deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination?

• How can your trade unions advocate effectively for increased health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce?
Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.

4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.

4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.

4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.

4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.
Goal 4 seeks to ensure free, inclusive and quality education for all and also to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The Millennium Development Goals made many strides in achieving education for all:

- The primary school net enrolment rate in the developing regions has reached 91 per cent in 2015, up from 83 per cent in 2000
- The number of out-of-school children of primary school age worldwide has fallen by almost half, to an estimated 57 million in 2015, down from 100 million in 2000
- Sub-Saharan Africa has had the best record of improvement in primary education of any region since the MDGs were established. The region achieved a 20 percentage point increase in the net enrolment rate from 2000 to 2015, compared to a gain of 8 percentage points between 1990 and 2000
- The literacy rate among youth aged 15 to 24 has increased globally from 83 per cent to 91 per cent between 1990 and 2015. The gap between women and men has narrowed.

However, despite progress, the MDGs failed to achieve universal primary education. By 2015, an estimated 57 million children of primary school age were out of school. Furthermore, gaps persisted when it came to the quality of education. According to the UN, at the end of primary school, children should be able to read, write and understand basic concepts of mathematics. However, in 2014, between 40 per cent and 90 per cent of children failed to achieve even minimum levels of proficiency in reading in 10 African countries; and in 9 of these countries between 40 per cent and 90 per cent of children failed to achieve minimum levels of mathematics.

One of the key challenges Goal 4 seeks to address is the lack of inclusiveness in education. According to the UN, worldwide in 2013, two thirds of the 757 million adults who were unable to read and write were women. Globally, in 2013, 1 in 10 girls were out of school compared to 1 in 12 boys. Furthermore, children from the poorest 20 per cent of households are nearly 4 times more likely to be out of school that their richest peers. Of the 57 million children out of school, out of school rates are higher in rural areas and among children from

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2 UN, op. cit., pp. 7-8
households headed by someone with less than a primary education.

Goal 4 also recognises the need for more qualified teachers if the targets are to be met. According to UN figures, current estimates show a need for nearly 26 million primary school teachers by 2030. Africa faces a major challenge in this area with nearly 7 in 10 countries experiencing acute shortages of qualified primary school teachers. In 2013, only 71 per cent of teachers in sub-Saharan Africa and 84 per cent of teachers in North Africa were adequately trained in line with national standards.

### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 4

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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1</strong> By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes</td>
<td>4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.3</strong> By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university</td>
<td>4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.4</strong> By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</td>
<td>4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.5</strong> By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations</td>
<td>4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict affected as data become available)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4c</strong> By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States</td>
<td>4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 4

**ILO:**
- ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, 1966
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)
- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
- Paid Educational Leave Convention, 1974 (No. 140)
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983 (No. 159)
- Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142)
- Human Resources Development Recommendation, 2004 (No. 195)

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
NOTES:

- Does your country provide free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education for all children? What is the figure for out of school children?

- Do girls and boys ensure equal access to quality primary and secondary education leading to inclusive affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university?

- What are the gaps in technical and vocational training in your country?

- What are the gaps in qualified teachers and in their working conditions in your country?
Goal 5
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

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

5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

5.5 Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences

5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels
Goal 5 seeks to achieve gender equality worldwide and the empowerment of women and girls everywhere. This goal seeks to end all forms of discrimination on the grounds of sex and aims to secure equal opportunity and treatment for girls and women.

Thanks to the MDGs, the world made some progress in gender equality in areas such as girls’ access to education, a decline in child marriage, access to sexual and reproductive rights and lower maternal deaths.

According to the UN1, as of 2014, 143 countries have guaranteed equality between men and women in their constitutions. Enshrining gender equality through **legal frameworks** is seen as an important step towards ending all forms of discrimination against women.

One of the areas of discrimination is in the area of **unpaid work**. The UN report emphasises that in every region, women and girls do the bulk of unpaid work, which includes care giving and household chores. On the average, women are reported to be spending 19 per cent of their time each day in unpaid activities, compared to 8 per cent for men. This places an undue burden on women who have to combine unpaid work and care giving with paid work.

Pay inequality is another area which persistently manifests discrimination against women. The ILO estimates the global average **gender pay gap** to be 23 per cent. This will be discussed further under Goal 10.

Despite the existence of **maternity protection** laws worldwide, discrimination against women on the grounds of maternity is widespread. These range from arbitrary dismissals to mandatory pregnancy testing. On the other hand, some countries have begun to introduce more family friendly policies to balance women and men’s role in raising new born babies.

Another feature of gender discrimination is the persistence of **sexual harassment** in the workplace. Though there is an increased awareness of the issue and some efforts to put in place adequate legislation, major gaps persist in law and in practice.

In the area of the participation of **women in leadership**, one notes a rise in women’s participation in parliament in 2016 with a rise to 23 per cent which represents a 6 per cent increase over a decade. This challenge is also present in women’s leadership roles in different other institutions and organisations including in trade unions. The participation of women in leadership positions is well below par.

Another area in which discrimination is manifested is in the gap between the labour participation rates of men and women in different parts of the world – it is 47.2 per cent in the Middle East, and over 40 per cent in South Asia.

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1 UN, op. cit., pp. 8-9
## Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 5

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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.1</strong> End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere</td>
<td><strong>5.1.1</strong> Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.4</strong> Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate</td>
<td><strong>5.4.1</strong> Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **5.5** Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life | **5.5.1** Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments  
**5.5.2** Proportion of women in managerial positions |

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 5

#### ILO:
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)
- Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156)
- Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)
- Part-Time Work Convention, 1994 (No. 175)
- Home Work Convention, 1996 (No. 177)
- Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)

#### Human Rights instruments:
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
NOTES:

- How does gender-based discrimination manifest itself in your country?

- What legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex?

- What proportion of time is spent on unpaid domestic and care work by women?

- What is the proportion of women in leadership positions, including in trade unions?
Goal 6

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 6
Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity

6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies

6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management
**Goal 6** seeks to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. In this regard, the goal aims at achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all as well as quality and sustainability of water resources worldwide. In addition to the above, the goal aims at ensuring adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all by 2030.

Progress has been made in the area of access to drinking water, however more remains to be done. According to the UN, in 2015, 6.6 billion people, or 91 per cent of the global population, used an improved drinking water source, versus 82 per cent in 2000. Despite this improvement, an estimated 663 million people were using unimproved water sources or surface water that year.

In terms of regional breakdown, coverage was around 90 per cent or more in all regions except sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania. However, widespread inequalities in coverage persist within and among countries. Moreover, not all improved sources are safe. For instance, in 2012 it was estimated that at least 1.8 billion people were exposed to drinking water sources contaminated with faecal matter.

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1 UN, op. cit., pp. 10-11

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### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.1</strong> By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all</td>
<td><strong>6.1.1</strong> Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 6

**Human Rights instruments:**

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
NOTES:

• What proportion of the population in your country uses safe drinking water?

• What can your union do to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all?
Goal 7
Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.

7.a By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.

7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support.
Goal 7 seeks to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Universal access to modern sustainable energy is seen as a key factor if the SDGs are to be achieved.

According to the UN\(^1\), the proportion of the global population with access to electricity has increased steadily, from 79 per cent in 2000 to 85 per cent in 2012. Despite this progress, an estimated 1.1 billion people are still without electricity. While recent progress is attributable to Asia, worldwide access to electricity is largely unequal. Since 2010, 80 per cent of those gaining access worldwide are urban dwellers.

Furthermore, in an effort to meet the growing focus on environmental sustainability, the share of renewable energy (derived from hydropower, solid and liquid biofuels, wind, the sun, biogas, geothermal and marine sources, and waste) in the world’s total final energy consumption has increased slowly - from 17.4 per cent in 2000 to 18.1 per cent in 2012. However, modern renewable energy consumption, grew rapidly at a rate of 4 per cent a year between 2010 and 2012, and accounted for 60 per cent of all new power-generating capacity in 2014. The technologies making the largest contribution have been hydropower, wind and solar energy; which together account for 73 per cent of the total increase in modern renewable energy between 2010 and 2012.

\(^1\) UN, op. cit., pp. 11-12

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Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.1</strong> By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services</td>
<td><strong>7.1.1</strong> Proportion of population with access to Electricity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.a</strong> By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology</td>
<td><strong>7.a.1</strong> Mobilized amount of United States dollars per year starting in 2020 accountable towards the $100 billion commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.b</strong> By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support</td>
<td><strong>7.b.1</strong> Investments in energy efficiency as a percentage of GDP and the amount of foreign direct investment in financial transfer for infrastructure and technology to sustainable development services</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 7

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
NOTES:

• What proportion of the population of your country has access to electricity?

• What is the share of renewable energy in your country’s total final energy consumption?

• To what extent are trade unions being associated with energy policy by the government and what contribution can you make?
Goal 8
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 8
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries

8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors

8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead

8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
Goal 8 is probably the most critical goal for trade unions. The Goal seeks to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth coupled with full and productive employment and decent work for all. On one hand, it embraces the ILO’s decent work agenda and its four strategic objectives namely, rights, employment, social protection and social dialogue. On the other hand, it makes a link between the pursuit of economic growth and that of decent work for all.

It is widely established that sustained economic growth is a necessary but an insufficient condition for poverty reduction. That is why the Goal rightly qualifies the kind of economic growth that is needed. Quality growth is needed not only to help reduce poverty but essentially, to do it through the creation of full employment and decent work for all. The Goal stresses a pattern of growth that is sustained over a long period; one that is inclusive by tackling structural inequalities and ensuring that the rewards of growth are fairly shared so that growth works for all, not just for the few; finally, a pattern of growth that is sustainable – in other words, one that does not compromise the welfare of future generations simply for short term gain, and one that reconciles the environmental, the social and the economic dimensions of development. Finally, this Goal rejects jobless growth and calls for a pattern of economic growth that is labour intensive and leads to the creation of full employment and decent work for all.

8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment

8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all

8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries

8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization
To achieve this objective, **decent work must be placed at the heart of macroeconomic policies** of countries. The creation of decent jobs cannot be seen simply as a by-product of growth but must rather be one of the central concerns in the design of the economic growth strategy. In other words, the creation of decent jobs must be a central preoccupation of macroeconomic policy alongside fiscal and monetary policy concerns.

Since the global financial crisis, the global economy is yet to recover fully. It is still trapped in a cycle of low growth which is having a devastating effect on the creation of jobs and poverty reduction. According to the ILO\(^1\), over the next two years, the global economy is projected to grow only be 3% which is significantly less than before the last global financial crisis. Weak global growth, coupled with financialization of the global economy and high levels of inequality are having devastating employment and social consequences.

Decent Work includes the pursuit of full **employment**. According to the ILO\(^2\), global unemployment stands at more than 27 million higher in 2015 than in the pre-crisis level of 2007. If pre-crisis growth levels had resumed, an estimated 70 million unemployed people would have had a job today. One of the groups most affected by unemployment are the youth. Worldwide, some 71 million young people are unemployed. Furthermore, it is estimated that 156 million employed youth or 38 per cent of working youth in emerging and developing countries, are living in extreme or moderate poverty. So there is an employment crisis whose scale is further aggravated by the persistence in developing countries of the informal economy.

In the pursuit of decent work for all, one must also meet the challenge to ensure the effective exercise of **rights at work**. Target 8.8 is of special significance to trade unions as it aims at protecting labour rights including safe and healthy working conditions, particularly for migrant workers and those in precarious employment. The key indicator of progress linked to this Target is to increase national compliance of labour rights, which has at its core the respect for freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining – rights that are enshrined in Conventions 87 and 98 as well as the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Among these fundamental ILO conventions, those that have least been ratified are Conventions 87 and 98. Indeed more than 40 per cent of the world’s population lives in countries that have not ratified these two core conventions, which are considered as the enabling rights to the achievement of all other rights. So for trade unions, the campaign for the ratification and implementation of these core rights, coupled with the use and monitoring of the respect of labour rights in the ILO supervisory system, is the means to ensure that this Target is met.

Target 8.7 seeks to eradicate forced labour and end child labour in all its forms. The ILO estimates that today some 21 million people are victims of forced labour, with some 5.5 million of whom are children. Child labour figures today stand at 168 million children with 85 million of them in the worst forms of child labour.

In the area of discrimination, the challenges are equally daunting. ILO Conventions 100 and 111 on discrimination are yet to be fully met. Discrimination on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction, social origin, and other

\(^1\) ILO, World Economic and Social Outlook, Trends, Geneva 2016
\(^2\) Ibid.
grounds remain widespread. One such area which Target 8.5 seeks to address is the area of gender pay equity. On average, women are paid 23 per cent less than their male counterparts. This reflects discriminatory policies and practices against women and an undervaluation of their contribution to development. Hence the need for trade unions to continue to fight for laws, socio-economic policies and institutions to promote equal opportunity and equal treatment of all persons.

A third strategic objective of decent work is that of social protection. As discussed under Target 1.3, social protection is a right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. According to the ILO\(^3\) in 2012, only 27% of the world’s working-age population and their families had access to comprehensive social security systems. So 5.2 billion people worldwide do not enjoy access to comprehensive social protection and are covered only partially or not at all.

A last constitutive element of decent work is that of social dialogue. Tripartism and social dialogue, together with the adoption of international labour standards, make the ILO stand out from all other organisations in the international system. After close to a century of social dialogue, today one can find national tripartite social dialogue mechanisms in some 80 per cent of all ILO member states with varying levels of effectiveness. Collective bargaining covers fewer than 20 per cent of workers in paid employment in about 60 per cent of all ILO member States. In the area of cross-border social dialogue, the Global Union Federations have signed International Framework Agreements with multinational companies however, these initiatives remain fragile. The new challenges posed in the global economy like the emergence of global value chains and policies of austerity are posing new difficulties to social dialogue – particularly, collective bargaining. Sectoral and national collective bargaining appears to be losing ground to bargaining at enterprise level. So the strengthening of tripartism and social dialogue and collective bargaining in particular, should be an essential part of trade union efforts to make Goal 8 a reality.

The ILO’s Social Justice Declaration\(^4\) in stressing the nature of the four strategic objectives that underpin decent work (i.e. rights, employment, social protection, social dialogue), stresses that, “The four strategic objectives are inseparable, interrelated and mutually supportive. The failure to promote any one of them would harm progress towards the others. To optimize their impact, efforts to promote them should be part of a(n) … global and integrated strategy…” . Trade Unions must therefore ensure that national SDG policies aimed at implementing Goal 8 are not limited to only employment policies or social protection policies but include all the four dimensions of Decent Work.

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## Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 8

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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8.1</strong> Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries</td>
<td><strong>8.1.1</strong> Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8.2</strong> Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors</td>
<td><strong>8.2.1</strong> Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8.3</strong> Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</td>
<td><strong>8.3.1</strong> Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **8.5** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value | **8.5.1** Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities  
**8.5.2** Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities |
| **8.6** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training | **8.6.1** Proportion of youth (aged 15-24) not in education, employment or training |
| **8.7** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms | **8.7.1** Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age |
| **8.8** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment | **8.8.1** Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status  
**8.8.2** Increase in national compliance of labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status |
| **8.8.b** By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization | **8.8.b.1** Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a proportion of the national budgets and GDP |
Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 8

ILO:
All the ILO’s International Labour Standards are relevant to achieving Decent Work and meeting the Targets under Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda. Particular conventions that have to be borne in mind are the following:

Fundamental Conventions:
- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)
- Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
- Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

Governance Conventions:
- Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81)
- Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)
- Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122)

The host of other ILO instruments covering Employment policy and promotion, Vocational guidance and training, Social Policy, Wages, Working time, Occupational Safety and Health, Social Security, Maternity protection, Seafarers, Dock workers, Migrant workers, Indigenous and tribal peoples, as well as Particular categories of workers, all contribute towards attaining decent work for all. These instruments can be consulted on the ILO web site: http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/subjects-covered-by-international-labour-standards/lang--en/index.htm
Overview of some specific ILO Declarations, Instruments and Documents that one may refer to in relation to the Targets under Goal 8:

Target 8.3:
• Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204)

Target 8.5:
• Declaration concerning the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organisation – Declaration of Philadelphia
• ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
• Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention, 1962 (No. 117)
• Equal Pay, An introductory guide, ILO, 2013

Target 8.6:
• Resolution concerning youth employment, Resolutions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 93rd Session (Geneva, June 2005)

Target 8.7:
• Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
• Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930
• Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
• Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)

Target 8.8:
• Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

Human Rights instruments:
• Universal Declaration of Human Rights
• International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
• International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
• Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
• United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
• International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
• Convention on the Rights of the Child
• Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Notes:

• What is the pattern of economic growth in your country? Is it sustained, inclusive and sustainable?

• Is the pattern of economic growth in your country leading to decent work for all?

• Is your government promoting decent work for all or is it promoting piecemeal employment or social protection policies without including rights and social dialogue?

• How can trade unions ensure that your country’s macroeconomic policy pursues full employment and decent work for all?

• How can trade unions increase compliance with freedom of association and collective bargaining?
Goal 9

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 9
Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries

9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities

9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending
**Goal 9 seeks to address 3 areas that are particularly important for developing countries namely, building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and fostering innovation.**

All these issues are of strategic importance particularly for low and middle-income countries that need to undertake a structural transformation of their largely agrarian or extractive economies. This process will enhance their industrial capacities and manufacturing base and will in turn create more manufacturing employment and value added. All of this will yield resources that could be used to develop infrastructure.

9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities.

9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.

According to the UN report on SDG progress, “In 2015, the share of manufacturing value added in terms of GDP of developed regions was estimated at 13 per cent, a decrease over the past decade owing largely to the increasing role of services in developed regions. In contrast, the share of manufacturing value added in GDP remained relatively stagnant for developing regions, increasing marginally from 19 per cent in 2005 to 21 per cent in 2015. Those values hide substantial differences, with manufacturing value added contributing over 31 per cent to GDP in Eastern Asia and 10 per cent or less in both sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania. The least developed countries face particular challenges in industrializing. Although those countries represent 13 per cent of the global population, they contribute less than 1 per cent of global manufacturing value added. Worldwide, about 500 million people are employed in manufacturing. While manufacturing job numbers have fallen in industrialized countries, they have steadily increased in developing countries. In the least developed countries, agricultural and traditional sectors remain the main sources of employment… In developing countries, small-scale industries accounted for an estimated 15 per cent to 20 per cent of value added and 25 per cent to 30 per cent of total industrial employment in 2015.”

1 UN., op. cit. pp.13-14
Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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</table>
| 9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry’s share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries | 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita  
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment |

**NOTES:**

- What is the level of manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment in your country?

- What is the trade union policy platform to advocate for inclusive industrialisation, infrastructural development and a growth in manufacturing employment?
Goal 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 10
Reduce inequality within and among countries

10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.

10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.

10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations.

10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions.

10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.
Goal 10 aims at reducing all forms of inequalities whether they are based on income, sex, race, ethnicity, age, disability social origin or colour, religion, political opinion, national extraction or other status. This goal also aims at reducing inequalities among countries.

According to Oxfam\(^1\), the wealth of the poorest half of the world’s population has fallen by a trillion dollars since 2010, a drop of 38 percent. Meanwhile, the wealth of the richest 62 has increased by more than half a trillion dollars to $1.76tr. Hence, 62 people own the same as half the world’s population.

1 OXFAM, An economy for the 1%, 210 Oxfam Briefing paper, 18 January 2016

This rise in inequality can also be measured in the labour share of GDP (which is the proportion of wages and social protection transfers in an economy). According to the UN\(^2\), “Globally, the labour share of GDP decreased from 57 per cent in 2000 to 55 per cent in 2015, mainly owing to stagnating wages and a decline in employers’ social contributions in developed regions, while the trend was stable or slightly upward in developing regions”.

This is further supported by evidence from the ILO\(^3\) which states that the “…wage share in overall gross domestic product (GDP) has been declining for several decades in 16 developed countries for which data are available, from about 75 per cent of national income in the mid-1970s to about 65 per cent in the years just before the global crisis. The average wage share also declined in a group of 16 developing and emerging economies, from around 62 per cent of GDP in the early 1990s to 58 per cent just before the crisis. Even in China, where wages have grown strongly, GDP increased at a faster rate than the total wage bill – and hence the labour share of national income went down.”

In conclusion, one is witnessing a shift of income away from labour towards capital. Inequality is also reflected through the different grounds of discrimination. For instance, pay inequality remains one of the most persistent forms of discrimination between men and women. The ILO estimates the global average gender pay gap to be 23 per cent. Despite measures being implemented to tackle this issue, progress is slow. It is estimated that at the current rate of progress, it will take another 75 years to bridge the gender wage gap. So accelerated action is needed to tackle the root causes of the problem to ensure equal opportunity and equal treatment of all persons.

2 UN, op. cit., pp. 14-15

10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements

10.b Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes

10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent
Target 9.10 addresses the concerns of a particular discriminated group namely migrant workers. It seeks to reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances. According to the UN⁴, recently the cost of sending money across borders stands at 7.5 per cent of the amount remitted in 2015. Remittances to developed countries in 2015 stood at US$431.6 billion.

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⁴ UN, op. cit., p. 15

### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 10

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average</td>
<td>10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status</td>
<td>10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by age, sex and persons with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality</td>
<td>10.4.1 Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions</td>
<td>10.6.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies</td>
<td>10.7.1 Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>10.7.2 Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent</td>
<td>10.c.1 Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 10

**ILO:**

**Wages:**
- Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (No. 95)
- Minimum Wage Fixing Convention, 1970 (No. 131)
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

**Social Protection:**
- Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)
- Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)
- Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118)
- Maintenance of Social Security Rights Convention, 1982 (No. 157)
- Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)

**Forced Labour:**
- Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
- Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (P029)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

**Migrant Workers:**
- Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)
- Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143)
- Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families
Notes:

• What is the level of inequality in your country and what are the drivers of this inequality?

• What is the labour share (i.e. wages and social protection transfers) of GDP in your country?

• Who are the discriminated groups in your country and what policies are needed to ensure equal opportunity and equal treatment of all persons?
Goal 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage

11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

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
Goal 11 aims at promoting inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements across the globe.

By 2030, the UN\(^1\) projects that 6 out of 10 persons will be urban dwellers. Already in 2014, the UN estimates that globally, more than 880 million people were living in slums. In the same year, it was estimated that 30 per cent of the urban population lived in slum-like conditions (55 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa). Hence if current trends continue a sizeable percentage of urban dwellers will continue to live in slums.

\(^1\) UN, op. cit., pp. 15-16

### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums</td>
<td>11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 11

**Human Rights instruments:**
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights

11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning

11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

11.c Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials
Notes:

- How many people live in slums in your country?
- What policies are needed to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers?
Goal 12
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 12
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

12.1 Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries

12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

12.a Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production
Goal 12 seeks to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. The goal therefore seeks to address problems such as unsustainable management and use of natural resources, environmentally damaging management of chemicals and waste, and the need to reduce waste generation.

Of particular interest to trade unions under this goal is Targets 12.6 which seeks to “Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle” and Target 12.7 which aims to “Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable”.

Baseline information on the above is limited however the ILO International Labour Conference adopted in 2007 a resolution concerning “The promotion of sustainable enterprises”, which sets out detailed criteria for the promotion of sustainable enterprises and the roles of ILO constituents. Some of the key elements of these criteria are the following:

On creating an environment conducive to sustainable enterprises, policies proposed were on: Peace and political stability; Good governance; Social dialogue; Respect for universal human rights and international labour standards. Entrepreneurial culture; Sound and stable macroeconomic policy and good management of the economy; Trade and sustainable economic integration; Enabling legal and regulatory environment; Rule of law and secure property rights; Fair competition; Physical infrastructure; Information and communication technologies; Education, training and lifelong learning; Social justice and social inclusion; Adequate social protection; and Responsible stewardship of the environment.

On responsible and sustainable enterprise-level practices, the following policy areas were agreed upon: Social dialogue and good industrial relations; Human resource development; Conditions of work; Productivity, wages and shared benefits; Corporate social responsibility; and Corporate governance and business practices.

12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

12.c Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities
On the specific issue of production and consumption patterns, the resolution stipulated that governments have a role in implementing policies to encourage more sustainable forms of production and consumption. Similarly, on public procurement practices, the resolution called for the promotion of socially and environmentally responsible public procurement, lending and investment including at the bilateral and multilateral levels. Such policies should strengthen a culture of respect for workers’ rights by setting a strong example, as well as promoting sound environmental practices. Governments were then called to use tax incentives and regulations, including public procurement procedures, to promote consumption and production patterns that are compatible with the requirements of sustainable development. Furthermore, private market-based solutions, such as the use of environmental criteria in assessing credit risk or investment performance were also encouraged.

These policies, together with just transition policies (treated under Goal 13), should therefore form the basis of trade union engagement on the issue of promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns through the promotion of sustainable enterprises.

### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>12.6</strong> Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle</td>
<td><strong>12.6.1</strong> Number of companies publishing sustainability reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12.7</strong> Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities</td>
<td><strong>12.7.1</strong> Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 12

**ILO:**
- Tripartite declaration of principles concerning multinational enterprises and social policy (MNE Declaration)
- Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Convention, 1949 (No. 94)

**Human Rights instruments:**
- United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Conclusions concerning the promotion of sustainable enterprises, International Labour Conference, 2007
Notes:

• Have companies in your country adopted sustainability practices as an integral part of their core business concerns? Are trade unions involved in this process?

• How many companies in your country publish sustainability reports?

• How widespread are rights-based sustainable procurement practices in your country?
NOTES:
Goal 13
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 13
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

1 Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

13.a Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly $100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible

13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities
Goal 13 seeks to address one of the contemporary challenges that threaten to undermine developmental efforts and our very human existence – climate change. The Goal calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. The SDG framework defers the details of action to be taken in this regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

By its nature, the challenge of climate change concerns all countries and needs concerted international action to tackle it. Hence the signing of the Paris Agreement in April 2016, in which the international community agreed on actions to tackle the threat of climate change and work towards a more sustainable world by:

- Holding the global average temperatures to well below well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels;
- Strengthening the ability of countries to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and fostering climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions;
- Making finance flows consistent with the shift towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

The Paris Agreement also provides in its preamble that, account should be taken of “the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities”.

The ILO has developed guidelines on just transition in a tripartite meeting of experts. The guidelines set out a number of principles that should guide the transition towards a more sustainable world. These include the following:

- Strong social consensus on the goal and pathways to sustainability is fundamental. Social dialogue has to be an integral part of the institutional framework for policy-making and implementation at all levels.
- Policies must respect, promote and realize fundamental principles and rights at work.
- Policies and programmes need to take into account the strong gender dimension ...
- Coherent policies across the economic, environmental, social, education/training and labour portfolios need to provide an enabling environment ...
- These coherent policies also need to provide a just transition framework for all to promote the creation of more decent jobs, ...
- There is no “one size fits all”. Policies and programmes need to be designed in line with the specific conditions of countries.
- In implementing sustainable development strategies, it is important to foster international cooperation among countries.

The guidelines then set out policies that must be pursued in key policy areas to ensure a just transition. These policy areas cover, Policy coherence and institutional arrangements for a just transition for all; Social dialogue and Tripartism polices; Macroeconomic and growth policies; Enterprise policies; Skills development policies; Occupational safety and health policies; Social protection policies; and Active labour market policies.

Trade unions have a key role to play to ensure that governments meet their commitments made under the Paris Agreement.

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2 ILO, Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all, Geneva, 2015

3 Ibid (For details of the policy proposals, refer to the ILO Guidelines for a Just Transition)
Trade unions must therefore, among other things, ensure:

- National contributions are comprehensive and incorporate aspects related to decent work and just transition.

- The inclusion of national contributions in the national sustainable development strategies of your country, in accordance with the follow-up to the 2030 SDG Agenda.

- The sound design of the five-year review cycles agreed in Paris, where national contributions are measured against each countries' responsibilities and capacities, and where civil society contributes to these assessments building the credibility of the system.

- Clear standards for measuring progress and reporting ensuring promises are realised.

- Climate finance commitments are delivered, including the mobilisation by developed country governments of USD 100 billion by 2020, and building on that sum to reach new, more ambitious commitments is critical for supporting developing countries in their development objectives.

- Funds are committed for financing just transition measures at the national, sectoral and regional level.

- Technology and knowledge transfer becomes a reality. Support for research and innovation in developing countries, including a substantial increase for research and development budgets, is needed to ensure ownership and appropriateness of innovations, as well as preventing new forms of dependency.

### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.2.1 Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalisation of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities</strong></td>
<td><strong>13.b.1 Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth, and local and marginalized communities</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ILO:</th>
<th>United Nations instruments:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally</td>
<td>• The United Nations Framework</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sustainable economies and societies for all, 2015</td>
<td>Convention on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Paris Agreement (United Nations Framework</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Convention on Climate Change)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**

- Are trade unions in your country engaging themselves in the issue of climate change? If not, why not?

- What policies are trade unions advocating to ensure a just transition?
Goal 14
Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution.

14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.

14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.

14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.

14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.\(^1\)

\(^1\) Taking into account ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations, the Doha Development Agenda and the Hong Kong ministerial mandate.
Goal 14 seeks action to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. This includes action to reduce marine pollution, manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems, address the impacts of ocean acidification, end overfishing and prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies.

Of particular concern to trade unions is the living and working conditions of seafarers and small-scale fishers. As fisheries contribute significantly to global food security, the welfare of both seafarers and artisanal fishers is crucial. One of the major problems confronting the world is the damage of fish habitats and overfishing which reduces biodiversity and fish stocks particularly those accessible to small-scale artisanal fishers. According to the UN¹, based on an assessment of fish stocks, the percentage of world marine fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels declined from 90 per cent in 1974 to 69 per cent in 2013. This trend has not only had negative consequences on the livelihoods of small-scale fishers but also calls for sustainable fishing.

¹ UN, op. cit., pp.18-19

14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism

14.a Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries

14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of “The future we want”
### Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 14

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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>14.b</strong> Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets</td>
<td><strong>14.b.1</strong> Progress by countries in the degree of application of a legal / regulatory / policy / institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 14

**ILO:**
- Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)
- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)

### Notes:
- Are the working conditions of fishers in conformity with Convention 188?
- Do small-scale fishers have adequate access to marine resources and markets?
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
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

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements

15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species

15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed
Goal 15 is a holistic goal that seeks to protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, to manage forests sustainably, to combat desertification, to halt and reverse land degradation and to stop the loss of biodiversity.

A first concern for trade unions under this Goal is the working conditions of those employed in forestry. According to the ILO, globally the forestry sector employs some 13.7 million formal workers. 60 per cent of these workers are found in ten countries namely, China, USA, Brazil, Russia, India, Japan, Germany, Indonesia, Italy, and Malaysia. However, this sector is also characterised by high levels of informality which is reinforced by the expansion of illegal logging. Forestry in general and logging in particular are hazardous in nature. So, workers, particularly those in informal employment relations, face critical problems to their health and safety.

Another priority area where trade unions could add value to the attainment of this Goal is in Official Development Assistance. Poorer countries need this assistance to achieve this goal – for instance, to manage their forests sustainably, promote biodiversity and combat desertification.

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

15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species

15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts

15.a Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

15.b Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

15.c Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities
## Trade Union Priority Targets and Indicators under Goal 15

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>15.b</strong> Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation</td>
<td><strong>15.b.1</strong> Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 15

**ILO:**
- Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184)
- Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)
- Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)
- Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)

**Human Rights instruments:**
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

### Notes:

- Are forests in your country managed sustainably?
- What is the level of employment in the forestry sector of your country?
- What are the conditions of work in the forestry sector and do workers face challenges to their health and safety?
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.
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

16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

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

16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
Goal 16 is the governance goal of the SDGs. Not only does it underline the rights-based approach to the SDGs, it also stresses that the rule of law, the respect of rights and effective institutions are essential to delivering the 2030 Agenda. The Goal seeks to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, justice for all, and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

A number of the trends in the priority Targets of Goal 16, have been discussed under other goals. This is the case for trafficking (see Goal 8) and non-discriminatory laws and policies (see Goals 5 and 10). The Targets dealing with the promotion of the rule of law and ensuring effective, accountable and transparent institutions are also of particular significance to trade unions since they often face violations of workers’ rights.

In relation to Target 16.8, on the inclusiveness of the international system, the UN reports that while developing countries account for 63 per cent of the voting rights in the African Development Bank, they account for 35 per cent in the International Monetary Fund and 38 per cent in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the World Bank. So there is more to do to strengthen the participation of developing countries in the economic, social and political institutions of global governance.

The effective participation of trade unions in collective bargaining, in social dialogue generally as well as in national development policy-making, is vital to ensure that workers and other discriminated and vulnerable groups are represented in decision-making. In this regard, Target 16.7 is particularly significant as it seeks to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. This is therefore an important Target to use to promote collective bargaining and social dialogue generally.

According to the ILO, national tripartite social dialogue mechanisms exist in some 80 per cent of all ILO member states. However, the effective functioning of these institutions varies across the globe. Current trends show a weakening of collective bargaining mechanisms as a result of factors such as increased global competition, labour law reform and austerity policies. Social dialogue mechanisms also face a number of challenges such as the increasing complexities in contractual arrangements, the emergence of non-standard forms of employment and the persistence of informality.

1 UN, op. cit., p. 21
The result of this trend is that collective bargaining covers fewer than 20 per cent of workers in paid employment in about 60 per cent of all ILO member States. Sectoral and national collective bargaining appears to be losing ground to bargaining at enterprise level. Even though the Global Union Federations have signed International Framework Agreements with multinational companies, cross-border social dialogue is still fragile. However, this trend of weakening of social dialogue is being accompanied by efforts to strengthen social dialogue mechanisms in a number of developing countries. Hence, trade unions should make the strengthening of social dialogue, particularly, increasing the coverage and scope of collective bargaining, an indicator of progress towards the attainment of Target 16.7 of the governance Goal.

Target 16.10 which seeks to ensure public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, should be a key trade union priority. The exercise of fundamental freedoms is protected by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. These fundamental rights include the right to freedom and security of the person, freedom of opinion and expression, freedom of association, freedom of assembly and the right to a fair trial by an independent and impartial tribunal. Article 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states that “Everyone shall have the right to freedom of association with others, including the right to form and join trade unions for the protection of his interests.” According to the ILO digest of decisions and principles of the Freedom of Association, “A genuinely free and independent trade union movement can only develop where fundamental human rights are respected”. So freedom of association and trade unions rights are fundamental freedoms.

However, cases brought before the ILO’s Committee on Freedom of Association and successive reports of the ILO’s Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, demonstrate widespread violations of the fundamental rights of workers and trade unions. These range from acts of anti-union discrimination against trade unionists, to violations of human rights and civil liberties, including arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances, torture and assassination of trade unionists. Target 16.10 is therefore an important Target for trade unions to ensure the respect of freedom of association and expression for all.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence</td>
<td>16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>against and torture of children</td>
<td>16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.3.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population,</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by sex, age and form of exploitation</td>
<td>16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months</td>
<td>16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other</td>
<td>16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms</td>
<td>16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience</td>
<td>16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of public services</td>
<td>16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities</td>
<td>16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and population groups) in public institutions (national and local</td>
<td>16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national</td>
<td>16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>distributions</td>
<td>16.8.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.8.2 Proportion of the population who believe decision-making is</td>
<td>16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group</td>
<td>16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months</td>
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<td>16.10.2 Proportion of the population who believe decision-making is</td>
<td>16.1.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group</td>
<td>16.1.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law</td>
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Some instruments and documents relevant to Goal 16

ILO:

- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)
- Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144)
- Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81)
- Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122)
- Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

Human Rights instruments:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
- International Covenant on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance
- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women
**Notes:**

- What is your assessment of the state of rule of law and access to justice in your country?

- What is your evaluation of the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of institutions in your country?

- How can social dialogue and collective bargaining in particular, be reinforced?

- What is the state of freedom of association in your country? What are the challenges and how can trade unions in liaison with other human rights groups strengthen fundamental freedoms?
NOTES:
Goal 17
Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development
Goal 17
Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

**Finance**

17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.

17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries.

17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources.

17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress.

17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries.

**Technology**

17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism.

17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.

17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology.
Capacity-building

17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

Trade

17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda

17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries’ share of global exports by 2020

17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access

Systemic issues

Policy and institutional coherence

17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence

17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

17.15 Respect each country’s policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

Multi-stakeholder partnerships

17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Data, monitoring and accountability

17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries
Notes:

• What is the level of your country’s official development assistance?

• What is your trade union doing to get your government to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance?

• What changes are needed in the international system to ensure sustainable development?
Towards Trade Union Participation in National SDGs
Orientation for Trade Unions on engagement in National SDG processes

The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals presents opportunities and challenges for trade unions. According to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the follow-up and review of the agenda will take place at national, regional and global levels. However the key level for implementation of the SDGs will be at national level. All countries are encouraged to develop as soon as practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. In accordance with the principles of the follow-up and review, these national planning, implementation and review processes should be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent involving all relevant stakeholders, including trade unions.

Workers have the right to participate in all the aspects of national SDG processes. Nobody can represent the interests of workers better than workers themselves and their trade union organisations. Trade unions are called to participate actively in these national follow-up and review processes on the SDGs with a view to promote and defend workers’ rights as well as the interests of the poorest in society.

Why should Trade Unions Participate in National SDG Processes?

The SDGs offer trade unions a unique opportunity to:

• engage their governments in the determination of national policies and therefore influence national socio-economic policies

• argue for traditional trade union policy positions like freedom of association and collective bargaining, full employment, social protection for all, decent wages, good working conditions, income security for the poor, and so on

• contribute to making national growth strategies inclusive and sustainable

• link national growth strategies to decent work and to argue for employment targeting in macroeconomic policies and for decent work to be at the heart of growth strategies

• address economic, social and environmental challenges in a coherent national development strategy

• institutionalise social dialogue on national socio-economic policies

• ensure that national SDG plans adequately address the interests of all workers - from teachers to health workers, to rural workers and those in informal conditions

• tackle inequalities and working poverty through wage, fiscal, social protection and other policies already proposed in the SDG targets

• fight against gender discrimination and all other forms of discrimination

• ensure that targets under Goal 8 on “Inclusive Growth and Decent Work for all” as well as other Decent Work target found under other Goals, are part of the national SDG plan

Participation in national development frameworks also poses a number of challenges for trade unions. This should also be borne in mind before engaging in national SDG processes. Some of these challenges include:

• Lack of internal capacity: trade unions may not have the capacities to participate
effectively in these national processes. This lack of capacity could be at the level of requisite policy expertise within the union to contribute meaningfully to policy debates; or lack of institutional capacity to follow complex long-term processes; or simply a lack of financial resources to undertake campaigns or educational programmes on the SDGs.

- **Diverting limited resources**: engaging in national development policies may mean diverting scarce human and financial resources away from other core tasks. So when engaging in these national development programmes, trade union leaders have to balance their engagement in a realistic manner that takes into account their limited resources.

- **Freedom of association and collective bargaining**: the non-existence of an enabling environment for freedom of association and collective bargaining also poses challenges in terms of recognition of the legitimate role of trade unions in national socio-economic policy. Unions may also be impeded from participating by the government for political reasons. The danger in these situations is that unions will be tempted to concentrate on their survival and leave the field open to others to determine policy.

- **Danger of legitimising unfavourable outcomes**: when participating in these national development programmes, one also runs the risk of legitimising outcomes that are not necessarily sanctioned by the trade union. Governments may use the participatory process simply as a window dressing to push through policies that are not in the interests of workers. So while the participation of trade unions in these SDG processes is necessary, unions must engage fully mindful of the possibility of being “used” to legitimise unfavourable outcomes for workers and the poor.

Trade unions must therefore engage in these national SDG processes but be mindful of the challenges they could face in ensuring an effective participation.

**In your opinion, are there other reasons why participation in SDGs offers opportunities and challenges for trade unions? Make a list of these opportunities and challenges from your national perspective.**

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<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
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Lessons Learnt from Previous Trade Union involvement in National Development Frameworks

Based on the involvement of trade unions in previous global development frameworks like the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers of the Bretton Woods institutions, a number of lessons have been learnt that could help trade unions today engage more effectively in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The following tips are presented below, not as prescriptions to be followed, but rather as ideas to inspire and guide trade unions engaging in national SDG processes.

- **Be Proactive and ahead of the curve:** the experience of trade unions in past development programmes points to the necessity to be proactive and to take initiatives to pre-empt the opening of negotiations on these national plans. So instead of waiting to be invited to participate, unions should take the lead to prepare their positions, share them with government and elaborate strategies even ahead of the opening of official negotiations.

- **Need for on-going capacity building:** the need for on-going capacity building particularly on technical issues is often a challenge for a number of unions. Where this capacity does not exist in the union, some organisations worked closely with like-minded research centres to bolster their technical capacities. Areas needing capacity were typically in macroeconomic policy, public budgeting, employment policy and statistical indicators.

- **Ensure Quality Participation:** trade unions were often invited to participate in the formulation of national plans but were ignored in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases of these national plans. Furthermore, participation was often only a formal exercise of consultation or window dressing and not a meaningful exercise in seeking credible alternative development paths. So while participation in SDG processes is important, trade unions must insist that it is the quality of this participation that is essential.

- **Engage in Policy issues:** despite the global frameworks for development, governments tend to stick to traditional neo-liberal policies often at the behest of the international financial institutions (IFIs). Hence the necessity of trade unions to reinforce their capacities on policy issues and to critically engage the IFIs on their policy prescriptions in their country.

- **Build Networks:** building broad-based coalitions with other like-minded civil society organisations was a useful means of developing a strong countervailing force to lobby for progressive socio-economic policies.

- **Ensuring Unity of Trade Union Action:** in countries with multiple trade union organisations, it proved very useful to develop a national trade union platform based on unity of action, in order to provide a united trade union voice in negotiating the development plan.

- **Insist on a Decent Work approach:** in past development programmes governments have tended to focus only on employment issues and played down on other pillars of decent work, particularly reference to workers’ rights. Trade Unions must therefore insist on having the four dimensions of Decent Work, namely - rights, employment, social protection and social dialogue - included in the national SDG plan.

- **Trade Union versus NGO representation:** in a number of countries, trade union representations in national consultations were put on the same level as NGOs which resulted in trade unions being marginalised.
in consultation forums. It is therefore important to educate governments and UN officials on the differences between Trade Unions and NGOs – particularly on the fact that unlike NGOs, trade unions are democratic, representative and mass organisations of workers

- **Institutionalising social dialogue on economic and social policy**: through engagement in these national development programmes, some trade unions were able to open more spaces of social dialogue on economic policy and with time, institutionalised discussions on economic and social policy in traditional tripartite bodies

- **Advocacy**: in some countries, trade union positions on certain aspects of the development plan were successfully championed through the media, lobbying and public awareness campaigns. This proved useful in mobilising public opinion in favour of trade union positions and basic rights to development

- **Representation in National planning bodies**: participation in national planning bodies proved an effective means to be at the heart of the planning, monitoring and evaluation of these national plans. Trade unions that secured this representation, succeeded in having a strong impact on national development plans

- **Linking Union strategy to SDG engagement**: the more successful unions in past programmes were those that were able to make a connection between their everyday work and traditional concerns on the one hand, with the national planning processes on the other hand. Making this link helped the unions to internalise the demands of participating in these national development plans and gave meaning to their participation.

In your experience of participating in past national development plans/policies, what lessons have you learnt that may be useful for future trade union engagement in SDG processes? Make a list of these lessons learnt.
CONTACTS FOR SUPPORT AND MORE INFORMATION ON SDGs

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For contact details consult the ILO web site: http://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm

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