

# The Human Rights Guide to the Sustainable Development Goals

Linking human rights with all Sustainable Development Goals and targets


Click on goal, target or instrument to expand details.

Use switch to change which column to be first.

Show first:

Targets

Instruments

Goal	Target	Instrument	Article / Description
 <p>Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.</p>	<p><b>14.3</b> Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels.</p> <p><b>Indicators</b> <b>14.3.1</b> Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations</p>	<p><b>ICESCR</b> International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b> <b>12.1</b> The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.</p> <p><b>12.2</b> The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for: <b>12.2.b</b> The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;</p>
		<p><b>Escazú Agreement</b> Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b> <b>1</b> The objective of the present Agreement is to guarantee the full and effective implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the rights of access to environmental information, public participation in the environmental decision-making process and access to justice in environmental matters, and the creation and strengthening of capacities and cooperation, contributing to the protection of the right of every person of present and future generations to live in a healthy environment and to sustainable development.</p> <p><b>4.1</b> Each Party shall guarantee the right of every person to live in a healthy environment and any other universally-recognized human right related to the present Agreement.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Each Party shall ensure that the rights recognized in the present Agreement are freely exercised.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Each Party shall adopt the necessary measures, of a legislative, regulatory, administrative or any other nature, in the framework of its domestic provisions, to guarantee the implementation of the provisions of the present Agreement.</p> <p><b>4.6</b> Each Party shall guarantee an enabling environment for the work of persons, associations, organizations or groups that promote environmental protection, by recognizing and protecting them.</p> <p><b>5.2</b> The exercise of the right of access to environmental information includes:</p> <p><b>5.2.a</b> requesting and receiving information from competent authorities without mentioning any special interest or explaining the reasons for the request;</p> <p><b>5.2.b</b> being informed promptly whether the requested information is in possession or not of the competent authority receiving the request;</p> <p><b>5.2.c</b> being informed of the right to challenge and appeal when information is not delivered, and of the requirements for exercising this right.</p> <p><b>5.3</b> Each Party shall facilitate access to environmental information for persons or groups in vulnerable situations, establishing procedures for the provision of assistance, from the formulation of requests through to the delivery of the information, taking into account their conditions and specificities, for the purpose of promoting access and participation under equal conditions.</p> <p><b>5.4</b> Each Party shall guarantee that the above-mentioned persons or groups in vulnerable situations, including indigenous peoples and ethnic groups, receive assistance in preparing their requests and obtain a response.</p>

		<p>6.1 Each Party shall guarantee, to the extent possible within available resources, that the competent authorities generate, collect, publicize and disseminate environmental information relevant to their functions in a systematic, proactive, timely, regular, accessible and comprehensible manner, and periodically update this information and encourage the disaggregation and decentralization of environmental information at the subnational and local levels. Each Party shall strengthen coordination between the different authorities of the State.</p>
		<p>6.2 The competent authorities shall endeavour to ensure, to the extent possible, that environmental information is reusable, processable and available in formats that are accessible, and that no restrictions are placed on its reproduction or use, in accordance with domestic legislation.</p>
		<p>6.3 Each Party shall have in place one or more up-to-date environmental information systems, which may include, inter alia:</p>
		<p>6.3.b reports on the state of the environment;</p>
		<p>6.3.c a list of public entities competent in environmental matters and, where possible, their respective areas of operation;</p>
		<p>6.3.d a list of polluted areas, by type of pollutant and location;</p>
		<p>6.3.e information on the use and conservation of natural resources and ecosystem services;</p>
		<p>6.3.f scientific, technical or technological reports, studies and information on environmental matters produced by academic and research institutions, whether public or private, national or foreign;</p>
		<p>6.3.h information on environmental impact assessment processes and on other environmental management instruments, where applicable, and environmental licences or permits granted by the public authorities;</p>
		<p>6.3.i an estimated list of waste by type and, when possible, by volume, location and year; and</p>
		<p>6.3.j information on the imposition of administrative sanctions in environmental matters.</p>
		<p>6.4 Each Party shall take steps to establish a pollutant release and transfer register covering air, water, soil and subsoil pollutants, as well as materials and waste in its jurisdiction. This register will be established progressively and updated periodically.</p>
		<p>6.5 Each Party shall guarantee that in the case of an imminent threat to public health or the environment, the relevant competent authority shall immediately disclose and disseminate through the most effective means all pertinent information in its possession that could help the public take measures to prevent or limit potential damage. Each Party shall develop and implement an early warning system using available mechanisms.</p>
		<p>6.6 In order to facilitate access by persons or groups in vulnerable situations to information that particularly affects them, each Party shall endeavour, where applicable, to ensure that the competent authorities disseminate environmental information in the various languages used in the country, and prepare alternative formats that are comprehensible to those groups, using suitable channels of communication.</p>
		<p>6.7 Each Party shall use its best endeavours to publish and disseminate at regular intervals, not exceeding five years, a national report on the state of the environment, which may contain:</p>
		<p>6.7.a information on the state of the environment and natural resources, including quantitative data, where possible;</p>
		<p>6.7.z Such reports shall be drafted in an easily comprehensible manner and accessible to the public in different formats and disseminated through appropriate means, taking into account cultural realities. Each Party may invite the public to make contributions to these reports.</p>
		<p>6.8 Each Party shall encourage independent environmental performance reviews that take into account nationally or internationally agreed criteria and guides and common indicators, with a view to evaluating the efficacy, effectiveness and progress of its national environmental policies in fulfilment of their national and international commitments. The reviews shall include participation by the various stakeholders.</p>
		<p>6.12 Each Party shall take the necessary measures, through legal or administrative frameworks, among others, to promote access to environmental information in the possession of private entities, in particular information on their operations and the possible risks and effects on human health and the environment.</p>

			<p>7.2 Each Party shall guarantee mechanisms for the participation of the public in decision-making processes, revisions, re-examinations or updates with respect to projects and activities, and in other processes for granting environmental permits that have or may have a significant impact on the environment, including when they may affect health.</p>
			<p>7.3 Each Party shall promote the participation of the public in decision-making processes, revisions, re-examinations or updates other than those referred to in paragraph 2 of the present article with respect to environmental matters of public interest, such as land-use planning, policies, strategies, plans, programmes, rules and regulations, which have or may have a significant impact on the environment.</p>
			<p>7.4 Each Party shall adopt measures to ensure that the public can participate in the decision-making process from the early stages, so that due consideration can be given to the observations of the public, thus contributing to the process. To that effect, each Party shall provide the public with the necessary information in a clear, timely and comprehensive manner, to give effect to its right to participate in the decision-making process.</p>
			<p>7.5 The public participation procedure will provide for reasonable timeframes that allow sufficient time to inform the public and for its effective participation.</p>
			<p>7.7 The public's right to participate in environmental decision-making processes shall include the opportunity to present observations through appropriate means available, according to the circumstances of the process. Before adopting the decision, the relevant public authority shall give due consideration to the outcome of the participation process.</p>
			<p>7.9 The dissemination of the decisions resulting from environmental impact assessments and other environmental decision-making processes in which the public has participated shall be carried out through appropriate means, which may include written, electronic or oral means and customary methods, in an effective and prompt manner. The information disseminated shall include the established procedure to allow the public to take the relevant administrative and judicial actions.</p>
			<p>7.12 Each Party shall promote, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic legislation, public participation in international forums and negotiations on environmental matters or with an environmental impact, in accordance with the procedural rules on participation of each forum. The participation of the public at the national level on matters of international environmental forums shall also be promoted, where appropriate.</p>
			<p>7.17 With respect to the environmental decision-making processes referred to in paragraph 2 of the present article, as a minimum, the following information shall be made public:</p>
			<p>7.17.a a description of the area of influence and physical and technical characteristics of the proposed project or activity;</p>
			<p>7.17.b a description of the main environmental impacts of the project or activity and, as appropriate, the cumulative environmental impact;</p>
			<p>7.17.c a description of the measures foreseen with respect to those impacts;</p>
			<p>7.17.d a summary of (a), (b) and (c) of the present paragraph in comprehensible, non-technical language;</p>
			<p>7.17.e the public reports and opinions of the involved entities addressed to the public authority related to the project or activity under consideration;</p>
			<p>7.17.f a description of the available technologies to be used and alternative locations for executing the project or activity subject to assessment, when the information is available; and</p>
			<p>7.17.g actions taken to monitor the implementation and results of environmental impact assessment measures.</p>
			<p>7.17.z The aforementioned information shall be made available free of charge to the public in accordance with paragraph 17 of article 5 of the present Agreement.</p>
			<p>9.1 Each Party shall guarantee a safe and enabling environment for persons, groups and organizations that promote and defend human rights in environmental matters, so that they are able to act free from threat, restriction and insecurity</p>
			<p>13 Each Party, to the extent of its ability and in accordance with its national priorities, commits to provide the resources for national activities that are needed to fulfil the obligations derived from the present Agreement.</p>
		<p><b>Protocol of San Salvador</b> Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural rights (Protocol of San Salvador)</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b></p> <p>11.1 Everyone shall have the right to live in a healthy environment and to have access to basic public services.</p>

			<p>11.2 The States Parties shall promote the protection, preservation, and improvement of the environment.</p>
		<p><b>ACHPR</b> African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b></p> <p>16.1 Every individual shall have the right to enjoy the best attainable state of physical and mental health.</p> <p>16.2 States parties to the present Charter shall take the necessary measures to protect the health of their people and to ensure that they receive medical attention when they are sick.</p> <p>24 All peoples shall have the right to a general satisfactory environment favourable to their development.</p>
		<p><b>Maputo Protocol</b> Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b></p> <p>18.1 Women shall have the right to live in a healthy and sustainable environment.</p>
		<p><b>CBD</b> Convention on Biological Diversity</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b></p> <p>12.a Establish and maintain programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components and provide support for such education and training for the specific needs of developing countries;</p> <p>12.b Promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, particularly in developing countries, inter alia, in accordance with decisions of the Conference of the Parties taken in consequence of recommendations of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;</p> <p>12.c In keeping with the provisions of Articles 16, 13 and 20, promote and cooperate in the use of scientific advances in biological diversity research in developing methods for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources;</p> <p>17.1 The Contracting Parties shall facilitate the exchange of information, from all publicly available sources, relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account the special needs of developing countries.</p> <p>17.2 Such exchange of information shall include exchange of results of technical, scientific and socio-economic research, as well as information on training and surveying programmes, specialized knowledge, indigenous and traditional knowledge as such and in combination with the technologies referred to in Article 16, paragraph 1. It shall also, where feasible, include repatriation of information .</p> <p>18.1 The Contracting Parties shall promote international technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, where necessary, through the appropriate international and national institutions.</p> <p>18.2 Each Contracting Party shall promote technical and scientific cooperation with other Contracting Parties, in particular developing countries, in implementing this Convention, inter alia, through the development and implementation of national policies. In promoting such cooperation, special attention should be given to the development and strengthening of national capabilities, by means of human resources development and institution building.</p> <p>18.3 The Conference of the Parties, at its first meeting, shall determine how to establish a clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation.</p> <p>18.4 The Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with national legislation and policies, encourage and develop methods of cooperation for the development and use of technologies, including indigenous and traditional technologies, in pursuance of the objectives of this Convention. For this purpose, the Contracting Parties shall also promote cooperation in the training of personnel and exchange of experts.</p> <p>18.5 The Contracting Parties shall, subject to mutual agreement, promote the establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies relevant to the objectives of this Convention.</p>
		<p><b>UNCLOS</b> UN Convention on the Law of the Sea</p>	<p><b>Show all articles</b></p> <p>200 States shall cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, for the purpose of promoting studies, undertaking programmes of scientific research and encouraging the exchange of information and data acquired about pollution of the marine environment. They shall endeavour to participate actively in regional and global programmes to acquire knowledge for the assessment of the nature and extent of pollution, exposure to it, and its pathways, risks and remedies.</p> <p>202 States shall, directly or through competent international organizations:</p>

			<p>202.a promote programmes of scientific, educational, technical and other assistance to developing States for the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the prevention, reduction and control of marine pollution. Such assistance shall include, inter alia:</p>
			<p>202.a.i training of their scientific and technical personnel;</p>
			<p>202.a.ii facilitating their participation in relevant international programmes;</p>
			<p>202.a.iii supplying them with necessary equipment and facilities;</p>
			<p>202.a.iv enhancing their capacity to manufacture such equipment;</p>
			<p>202.a.v advice on and developing facilities for research, monitoring, educational and other programmes;</p>
			<p>202.b provide appropriate assistance, especially to developing States, for the minimization of the effects of major incidents which may cause serious pollution of the marine environment;</p>
			<p>202.c (c) provide appropriate assistance, especially to developing States, concerning the preparation of environmental assessments.</p>
			<p>204.1 States shall, consistent with the rights of other States, endeavour, as far as practicable, directly or through the competent international organizations, to observe, measure, evaluate and analyse, by recognized scientific methods, the risks or effects of pollution of the marine environment.</p>
			<p>204.2 In particular, States shall keep under surveillance the effects of any activities which they permit or in which they engage in order to determine whether these activities are likely to pollute the marine environment.</p>

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