

The future is now

Global visions and agreements for sustainable development

Challenges relating to sustainable management of natural resources and the promotion of human well-being feature prominently in international discussions and global agreements. Global poverty has not yet been eradicated and environmental pressures are increasing rather than decreasing. The year 2015 was a landmark thanks to the formalisation of five global agreements. The five agreements stress the importance of proportionate contributions by all countries and all actors. They are the culmination of more than 40 years of UN conferences, summits and international agreements, and underscore the growing realisation that an integrated approach is vital for minimising trade-offs and capturing synergies in the broad range of entangled issues of sustainable development.

The 2030 Agenda conceptualises sustainable development through 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Together, they formulate an ambitious and transformational vision for 2030 that links a broad range of issues with other global agreements, as well as with a series of earlier agreements and conventions, such as the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010–2011.

2015
 UN Sustainable Development Summit
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development + SDGs
 A plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, concretised in 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets that are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development

2016
 3rd UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
The New Urban Agenda
 Provides a roadmap setting standards for sustainable urban development globally and implementing various SDGs, particularly SDG 11 'to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'.

2015
 UN Conference on Climate Change COP 21
Paris Agreement
 Strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by mitigation, adaptation and finance of climate change.

2015
 3rd UN International Conference on Financing for Development
Addis Ababa Action Agenda
 Provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and achieving the SDGs. It addresses all sources of finance, and covers cooperation on a range of issues, including technology, science, innovation, trade and capacity building.

2015
 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
 Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery

