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.

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