

# 17 GOALS | 1 FUTURE

How the UN Sustainable Development Goals can be reached in and with Norway by 2030



**T**his report was developed by the Norwegian ForUM for Development and Environment (ForUM), a network consisting of 50 Norwegian civil society organizations who have almost one million members between them. ForUM represents many different fields of expertise, and primarily works on environmental, developmental, peace and human rights issues. The report is nearly identical to the inputs sent to the Norwegian government in the drafting process of the national report ahead of the voluntary examination on SDG implementation at the High-level Political Forum in July 2016.

The report has been created by contributions from: Caritas Norway, Digni, FOKUS (Forum for Women and Development), FIVAS, Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM), The Future in our hands (FIOH), Greenpeace, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF Norway), IPB, The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU), the international department within the Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO), Norges Naturvernforbund (Friends of the Earth Norway), Norwegian People's Aid, Save the Children Norway, Rainforest Foundation Norway, International Planned Parenthood Foundation Norway (Sex og Politikk), Spire, Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH), The Development Fund Norway, Victoria W. Thoresen at Hedmark University, and WWF-Norway.

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We would like to take this opportunity to give our sincere appreciation and thanks to everyone who have contributed in the making of this report!

Design: Jenny Jordahl / Differ Media

Print: Grøset Trykk AS

Coverphoto: Pixabay, CCO Public Domain

Translation (Norwegian to English): Trond Sæbø Skarpeteig.



# 17 GOALS



# 1 FUTURE

How the UN Sustainable  
Development Goals can  
be reached in and with  
Norway by 2030

# Preface

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Fresh air. Clean water. Food. Health. Safety. We all need this, and we need to make a living. With the UN Goals for Sustainable Development everyone shall be reached – women and men, children and young – leaving no-one behind, without exceeding the carrying capacity of the earth. It's ambitious, but necessary.

The goals provide us with an immense opportunity, and a common direction to global efforts for a better world. None of us can reach the goals alone. Coherence and cooperation within and across countries, subjects and sectors is needed: Authorities, politicians, business, organizations and others can all contribute, in different roles.

The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM) is a nonpartisan network of 50 Norwegian organizations working for a sustainable and peaceful development, human rights and transparency. For nearly a quarter of a century, ForUM has been a vital nexus and a meeting place for Norwegian civil society sharing knowledge and making joint proposals for a better tomorrow. We have followed the UN negotiations on Climate change, Sustainable Development Goals, and Financing for Development closely, and have coordinated the work with this report, which contains interdisciplinary recommendations.

How can we best reach the goals by 2030, and measure them? What counts cannot always be counted. Finding good indicators can be challenging. Millions of children are not even registered by birth. In many places, authorities lack capacity and statistics. In other places there is a lack of will to reach the most vulnerable, to reveal problems, to think long-term, challenge power structures or interests, and to share. Information necessary to consider whether one is on track to reaching



a specific goal or target can be exempt from public disclosure, information about for example marginalized groups, about environmental destruction, or about flows of weapons or money in the shadows that are – or should be – illegal.

Civil society is often closer to the vulnerable and contribute “on the ground” to vibrant, participative communities where people care about the future. Independent organizations contribute with expertise and to hold authorities, business and others to account. To strengthen knowledge and debate we have created a Sustainability Forum together with the research institutions CICERO and Fafo. We are have a dialogue with other knowledge communities, the UN, business, and cooperate with civil society organizations and networks in other countries. Together, in different capacities, we will contribute with comprehensive, fact-based recommendations and activities to reach shared goals.

“Ours can be the first generation to end poverty — and the last generation to address climate change before it is too late”, UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon said when world leaders adopted the UN Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. Now it is up to all of us to help achieve them, and have a positive impact on people and planet, leaving no-one behind.



*Borghild T. Krokan*

**Borghild Tønnessen-Krokan**

Acting Director,  
Forum for Development and Environment



*Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom.*

*It always seems impossible until it's done.*

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**Nelson Mandela**

**Is it possible to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030?  
If yes, is it possible to do so without depleting the  
Earth? And can we measure it?**

Yes, say world leaders. In 2015, the UN adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development—an ambitious plan of action with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets aiming at sustainably eradicating poverty by 2030. In addition, an agreement on Financing for Development (FFD) covering, inter alia, official development assistance, taxation and domestic resource mobilization, responsible investment practices, and trade was reached.

The SDGs replace the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which expired in 2015. MDG 1 on halving poverty has been reached. Now it's time to finish the job.

“Ours is the first generation that can end poverty, and the last that can take steps to avoid the worst impacts of climate change”, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said in 2015.

The new goals address the root causes of poverty. A holistic approach is therefore needed to achieve them. Along with many of the world's crises, the SDGs are interrelated:

To end poverty (Goal 1), every man, woman and child needs have food security and improved nutrition (Goal 2), clean water and safe sanitation (Goal 6), a safe and healthy living environment (Goal 11), good health (Goal 3) and quality education (Goal 4). Access to clean energy (Goal 7) and infrastructure, industrialisation and innovation (Goal 9), and decent work (Goal 8) are necessary to reduce inequality (Goal 10)—including gender inequality (Goal 5)—to create inclusive green growth (Goal 8), and to ensure that well-being for all humans is in harmony with nature. To protect life both on land (Goal 15) and in the water (Goal 14), and to combat dangerous levels of climate change (Goal 13), we must produce and consume sustainably (Goal 12). Furthermore, to achieve these goals in a peaceful and just society (Goal 16), broad cooperation, coherence and good financing are needed (Goal 17). We have no planet B.



The SDGs provide a common way forward and new opportunities for global development for governments, business, civil society and others. Countries across the world have been actively involved in drafting the Goals, and more than eight million people have provided input.

The goals must be reached in and by all countries. Norway has good prospects for national success, and is well placed to help other countries reach the goals: Norway is a rich, peaceful and democratic country with a high level of human development. Nevertheless, Norway will have difficulties in attaining certain goals, especially with respect to the environment.

Norway's Prime Minister, Ms. Erna Solberg, is leading a group of celebrities who will be promoting the Goals. By making the SDGs more widely known, more people can contribute to achieving them.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) often operate in close proximity to the challenges, and are present where the poorest and most vulnerable people live. CSOs can help achieve the goals as implementing partners, as technical experts, as critical watchdogs, and as advocates for progress. By generating debate and enhancing public awareness of the goals, civil society can contribute to more informed decisions.

## How should the UN Sustainable Development Goals be monitored?

The SDGs are ambitious. They commit countries politically, but not legally. Nevertheless, world leaders will be held accountable for how they achieve the goals, and whether they reach everyone, including excluded groups. In many areas there is a lack of adequate data and access to information. We do not always know who the most vulnerable are or where they live, we lack transparency of cash flows, and there is a lack of knowledge and information on environmental degradation.. This is sometimes due to lack of capacity, and in other cases due to lack of willingness and transparency. To achieve the SDGs, and verify whether or not they have been reached, a willingness to change is required. To quote Albert Einstein, "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

Norway, together with 20 other countries, has agreed to be the first to report to the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on how Agenda 2030 will be implemented domestically, and how Norway will support the SDGs

abroad. The reporting will take place in New York from 11 to 20 July 2016.

The Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development (ForUM), a network of 50 Norwegian organisations that have monitored and contributed to the negotiations on the SDGs from the beginning and have provided detailed inputs to the Government, has coordinated the drafting of the following interdisciplinary recommendations for the Norwegian government on how the SDGs can be reached in and by Norway. In April 2016, these recommendations were handed over to the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Climate and Environment and the Ministry of Finance.

The first part of this report presents a number of overall challenges and recommendations, including suggestions regarding implementing and financing sustainable development.

The second part addresses all 17 goals and many of the 169 targets, with specific recommendations and several examples of how civil society organisations can contribute.

The recommendations are not exhaustive.

The drafting group consisted of Save the Children Norway, WWF Norway, Forum for Women and Development (FOKUS) and the Forum for Environment and Development (editor). A number of other organisations contributed on specific goals.

We have devoted particular attention to how Norway can support other countries' attainment of the Goals, and have to some degree looked at how the goals can be reached domestically, especially with regard to climate and the environment, where Norway faces significant challenges.

Human rights, as well as social, economic and environmental sustainability, serve as the foundation and guiding framework for the recommendations.

Sustainable development is about taking care of the needs of people living today, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. We need a common plan to lead development in a direction that is beneficial to all. The SDGs represent such a plan.

Reaching the goals will require courage, sound judgement, cooperation and political will. It will be costly. But the cost of failure would be higher still.



Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, the new Sustainable Development Goals shall be reached in and by all countries. This means we must have coherent policies for sustainable development pulling in the same direction.

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# Part 2

## Recommendations for all 17 SDGs

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# PART 1.

# Overarching recommendations

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are the most ambitious commitments to eradicating poverty the world has ever seen. Norway, along with almost every country in the world, has pledged to act on several levels to achieve the goals by 2030: domestically and internationally, as well as across economic, environmental and social spheres.

However, since the Goals were signed and passed to great acclaim in September 2015, we have seen a change of attitude. Not in many decades have so many millions of people had to leave their homes, fleeing from war, violence, poverty, injustice, climate change and natural disasters. Distress is knocking on our door, but the public debate is by and large characterised by threat scenarios and fear of the loss of our own prosperity.

It is in the face of adversity we demonstrate our intrinsic values. As Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Børge Brende, said in his foreign policy account to the Storting (the Norwegian Parliament) in March 2016: “One reason for optimism is our robust, shared values: freedom, democracy, human rights, gender equality and sustainable development. These are constituent values in the Norwegian society, and hence also in Norwegian foreign policy. The more storms rage around us, the more important it is to stick to who we are and remain true to our shared values.”



## 1.1

# Prerequisites

**In this chapter, we will emphasise two prerequisites for achieving the Goals:**

### 1.1.1

## Leave no one behind

*Leave no one behind*—that no goal may be declared to have been met unless it has been met for everyone by 2030—is a fundamental principle of the SDGs, and is also the subject of the UN review of the SDGs in July 2016.

The world has come a long way in recent decades. The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have contributed to fewer people living in poverty and to more children surviving and attending school. At the same time, the MDGs had huge blind spots: as goal attainment in the MDG era was based on average population results, they ignored how some groups were excluded and overlooked. This is no coincidence: in their eagerness to reach the goals by 2015, many countries prioritised helping easily reachable groups of people (a “low hanging fruit” strategy). In addition, many social groups were neglected, forgotten or discriminated against. Excluded groups such as people living with disabilities, refugees, ethnic and religious minorities, girls, and indigenous people are still disproportionately over-represented among those who still marginalised from development. Inequality is increasing, both in terms of income and opportunities. In many places, violence and extremism are consequences of this, thus making communities even more vulnerable.

Norway is well placed to reach several of the SDGs. Norway has a high level of human development, tops

the UNDP’s human development index, and is a pioneer in human rights, including gender equality and governance. We can be proud of that. Norway should continue to be a prime mover, to keep our house in order, and to inspire others.

However, also in Norway, more needs to be done in order to ensure that people are not marginalised and to ensure that everybody enjoys social and economic well-being. We must face the fact that some groups are more at risk of dropping out or being excluded than others, and that Norway still has challenges in ensuring full equality between the sexes. In order to verify whether or not everyone has been reached, disaggregated, publicly available, high-quality data is needed. Separate indicators for young people should be created.



### Norway must:

Adopt *Leave no one behind* as a guiding principle for Norwegian engagement with the SDGs until 2030, in order to ensure that excluded and vulnerable groups are the first to be reached and that inequality is reduced.





Norway faces challenges achieving several of the environmental goals. For example; we are among the 20 countries with the world's highest ecological footprint.



### 1.1.2

# Climate change requires green transformation

A healthy planet is the foundation for all development. This foundation is threatened. Climate change is probably the greatest challenge facing the world today, and with current emission levels we are heading towards global warming of more than two degrees Celsius. This will lead to massive climate damage, worsening living conditions and increasing poverty. Meanwhile, we have exceeded the Earth's tolerance limits in several areas that are crucial for further development. Life both below water and on land has been halved over the past 40 years.

The SDGs constitute the framework for a new type of development, where climate and the environment are consistently taken into account. The Goals are intended to safeguard social, economic and environmental sustainability. A global green transformation is needed in order to ensure a type of development that is within the Earth's tolerance limits.

Norway is facing great challenges in meeting several of the environmental Goals. Norway is among the 20 countries worldwide with the highest ecological footprint: More than two Earths would be needed to support a global population with the lifestyle of today's average Norwegian. If we continue to maintain our current patterns of consumption, we will reach a point of no return. Norwegian greenhouse gas emissions have risen since 1990, and it is essential that we urgently implement measures to significantly reduce Norwegian emissions. An accelerated green transformation toward renewable industries in Norway will be an important component in achieving the Goals.

The UN has identified technology as essential to the implementation of 15 of the 17 SDGs. At the same time, we must seek to ensure that this technology is environmentally friendly, sustainable, and not detrimental to biodiversity.



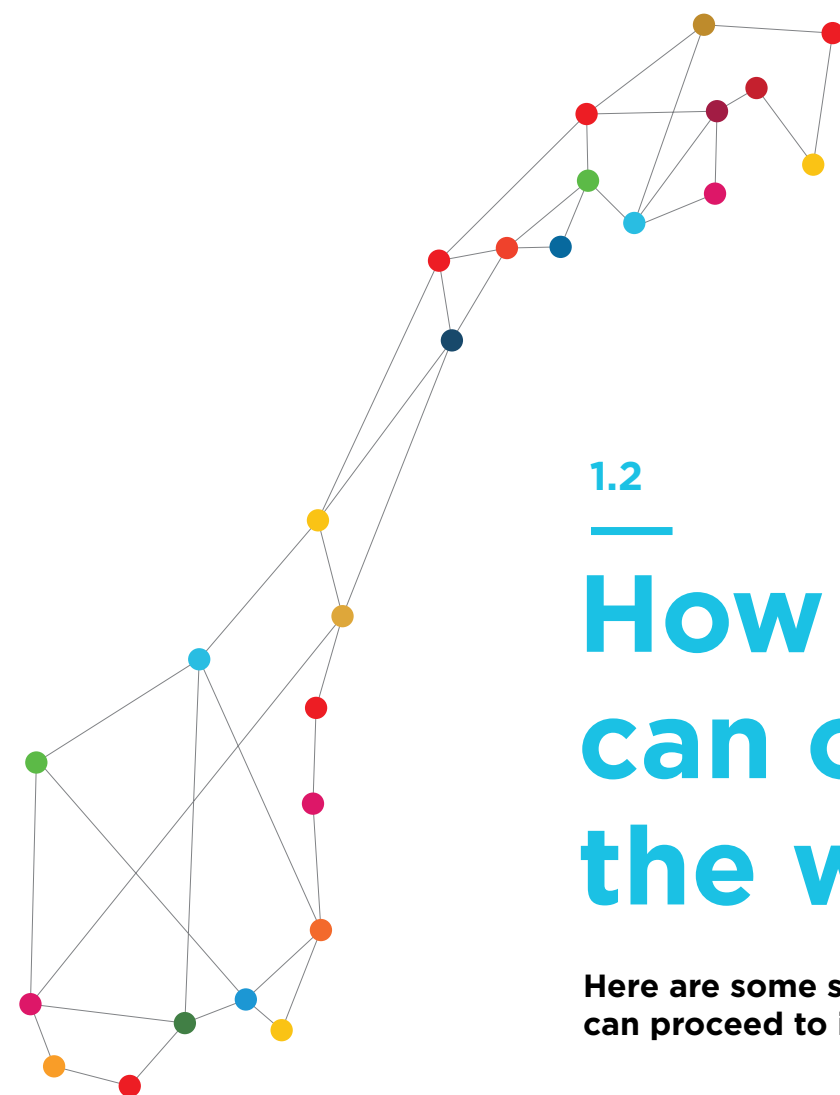
## Norway must:

Take its share of global responsibility by reducing Norwegian greenhouse gas emissions, and ensure that climate and environment considerations are consistently integrated into the work of achieving the SDGs.

**More than two Earths  
would be needed to  
support a global  
population with the  
lifestyle of today's  
average Norwegian**







## 1.2

# How Norway can organise the work

**Here are some suggestions on how Norway can proceed to implement the SDGs:**

### 1.2.1

## Develop a national action plan

During a recent visit to South Korea, Norwegian Prime Minister Ms. Erna Solberg emphasised the importance of national ownership in parliaments and populations, and highlighted the need to translate the goals into enforceable domestic legislation.

- The Norwegian government should follow up on the Prime Minister's advice, and urgently develop a strategy and a national plan on how the SDGs can be implemented and financed, and take steps to follow this up in Norway as well as internationally in collaboration with civil society and other relevant actors. This national plan should be anchored through extensive cooperation across party lines and in collaboration with civil society and other stakeholders, in order to ensure longevity and a steady course towards 2030. Although planning through the National Budget process will be crucial, there is a need for planning that extends over several years.

### 1.2.2

## Annual reporting

To be accountable and transparent, we encourage the Government to report annually on Norway's performance and on what is being done to achieve the Goals, both domestically and globally through foreign, environmental, and business and industrial policies. These reports must be made publicly available. CSOs must be invited to join the reporting process, with the aim of ensuring a joint understanding of progress and further priorities.

In order to review Norway's progress on the SDGs, especially on the national level, clarity about the starting point or baseline is needed. The Government must establish such a baseline with clearly defined indicators that makes it possible to review progress and make necessary adjustments towards 2030.

Nation-wide ownership should be established through a White paper, in line with remarks from the majority of the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs on reading White paper No. 7 (2015–2016) "Gender equality in practice—equal opportunities for women and men".

### 1.2.3

## A broad-based partnership that includes civil society

As demonstrated by Goal 17, partnerships are necessary to achieve the Goals. Many groups and individuals can join hands to help achieve the Goals. Governments are ultimately responsible for implementation, but the business community, the UN, academia, donors, civil society, and others all play important roles. The independent civil society—women, men and young people—are often closer to those who are vulnerable, and can contribute as implementing partners, as a driving force, through mobilisation, and by raising awareness so that the Goals are not forgotten.

Countries' achievement of the Goals also rests on CSOs being able to promote and operate as watchdogs engaging with national and local governments. This requires more transparency on national budgets and priorities, and for civil society to have the freedom and resources to work independently. Norway should encourage partner countries to apply greater transparency concerning public affairs, and to ensure the freedom of and resources to civil society to do their job as driving forces. The same applies nationally in Norway. CSOs, through their organisations and networks, must be invited to join at every stage of the planning, implementation and reporting process.

### 1.2.4

## Coherent policy

The global challenges are intertwined. Therefore, the approach must be integrated, comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral. When development policy diverges, it will not be effective. Norway's and other countries' development policies must be coherent and pull in the same direction in supporting sustainable poverty reduction, not giving with one hand and taking away with the other, which risks undermining Norwegian policy. The Government Pension Fund Global (GPF, the Norwegian sovereign wealth fund), for example, invests far more in activities that destroy the

rainforest than the Government contributes financially to fund rainforest conservation. Similarly, the fund invests in tax havens, which our government, in contrast, is trying to combat.

One way to ensure coherence may be for the Office of the Prime Minister to oversee the process of ensuring that the SDGs are met, and that all relevant ministries and agencies are involved.

### 1.2.5

## SDGs must become more widely known

For the SDGs to be achieved it is essential that people know about the Goals, and are aware that they are universal and also apply to Norway. It is therefore encouraging that Prime Minister Erna Solberg is leading a group of celebrities who will be raising awareness about the Goals. The SDGs are the most important strategy that the world has agreed upon with regard to poverty reduction, and must be made widely known through schools, public debate and information campaigns.

In the new White paper No. 28 (2015–2016) "Subjects, specialisation, understanding—a renewal of the Knowledge promotion reform", sustainable development is cited as one of three interdisciplinary themes that will characterise the future of schooling. Future curricula must apply a holistic approach to sustainable development that is similar to that which underlies the UN SDGs. The white paper also emphasises that schools are to prepare students to participate as active citizens in a democracy. Knowledge and ownership of the SDGs are important contributions to achieving this.

Working internationally, Norwegian civil society cooperated effectively with the Norwegian government in the process of drafting the 2030 agenda. Norwegian civil society wants to continue to help making Agenda 2030 more widely known, and to create engagement, debate, and active support, but the Government must facilitate this so that organisations working nationally are also able to acquire the necessary knowledge, get involved with, and take ownership of the SDGs.

# Financing for Sustainable Development

Norway is one of the richest countries in the world. This gives us a huge responsibility, and at the same time provides us with a great opportunity to contribute to reaching these goals through various financial instruments at home and abroad. Norway is committed by Agenda 2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to put in place ambitious measures to strengthen financing for sustainable development.

## 1.3.1

### Ensure long-term development assistance

Adequate and long-term development assistance is needed to enhance the understanding, prevention, and reduction of natural resource degradation, climate change, poverty, abuse, conflict and other factors that force people to leave their homes. The extraordinary refugee crisis requires extraordinary funds—fresh funds—and must not be taken from long-term development assistance.

## 1.3.2

### It must be worthwhile to operate ethically

Trade, investment (including through the GPFG and state-owned companies), and other financial and business activities are essential to creating income and jobs that can contribute to a real green transformation, as well as to sustainable development in which people and the environment are both well cared for. Stable conditions for the implementation of sustainable development are needed. To prevent such economic activities from doing harm and undermining

sustainable development, a combination of stick and carrot measures are needed. We need a “race to the top”, not “to the bottom”. We must inspire efforts, but saving the Earth cannot remain voluntary.

## 1.3.3

### Responsible investments

For investments to make a positive contribution to sustainable development, they must be responsible and follow the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises, the UN guiding principles on business and human rights, and the ILO’s decent work agenda, which includes job creation, employment, and dialogue between the social partners of work and society, where basic and universal workers’ rights are respected, a fair living wage is paid, and social protection exists.

Norway should also take a leading role internationally in efforts to put in place a binding framework to ensure that multinational corporations and financial institutions protect the environment and respect human rights.

Norway should also ensure that due diligence reviews for human rights are required when enterprises invest in other countries.

Norway should ensure that investors adhere to the international decent work agenda, which includes paying a decent living wage to local workers.

The Norwegian Pension Fund (GPFG) –the world’s

largest - should invest a larger portion of our pensions in actions that help to solve the climate problem, not reinforce it. GPF should invest in infrastructure such as renewable energy.

#### 1.3.4

### A rule-based, predictable, open and fair trading system

As recognised in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, international trade is a driver for economic growth and poverty reduction. A rule-based, predictable, open, and fair multilateral trading system through the WTO is the most inclusive and universal arena for international trade. Norway should work to speed up the Doha round of the WTO negotiations, ensure that development is central to negotiations, and focus Norway's trade negotiations around the WTO. To ensure that trade does not undermine the SDGs, impact assessments on human rights and environment should be carried out and be guiding to any trade and investment agreements.

#### 1.3.5

### Improved debt management, responsible lending and borrowing

We are now observing the weakest economic growth in developing countries since the financial crisis in 2008/2009. Meanwhile, nearly a third of all countries have alarmingly high debt burdens. To solve the debt crisis, creditor and debtor must have a shared responsibility, UNCTAD principles of responsible sovereign lending and borrowing must be adhered to, an independent international debt management mechanism should be established, and vulture fund activity prevented.

The Panama papers demonstrated how important it is that we put in place international regulations to limit tax evasion/avoidance and illicit capital flight. Money that should have been used to finance schools, education and hospitals disappear from poor countries and end up in tax havens and the pockets of the world's richest.

#### 1.3.6

### Greater financial transparency, less tax dodging

Green taxes have the potential to generate both billions in income and climate benefits. Similarly, tax evasion, illicit financial flows, secrecy and corruption make that revenue — money which could have financed schools and the achievement of the other SDGs — disappear out of the country and into tax havens. To put an end to this, greater financial transparency is required, both in Norway and through global standards. Measures include: an extended public country-by-country reporting including tax havens; the creation of publicly accessible registers of companies' beneficial owners; holding both governments and the private sector accountable; and more open, inclusive, and global cooperation through an intergovernmental tax body, in which all countries have a seat at the table.

#### 1.3.7

### Climate Finance

Climate finance is crucial as a vehicle for reducing emissions, increasing resilience in developing countries, and to demonstrate that the international community stands by its promise to assist developing countries in their efforts to build an economy and a society which is climate smart, and contributes as little as possible to global greenhouse gas emissions. A solid Norwegian contribution to fulfilling the Paris Agreement and other international obligations will be necessary. Norway is a country that is in a solid financial position, and from the perspective of justice it would be appropriate for it to commit to a level of climate financing that is relative to the size of the overall economy, without compromising traditional official development assistance (ODA).

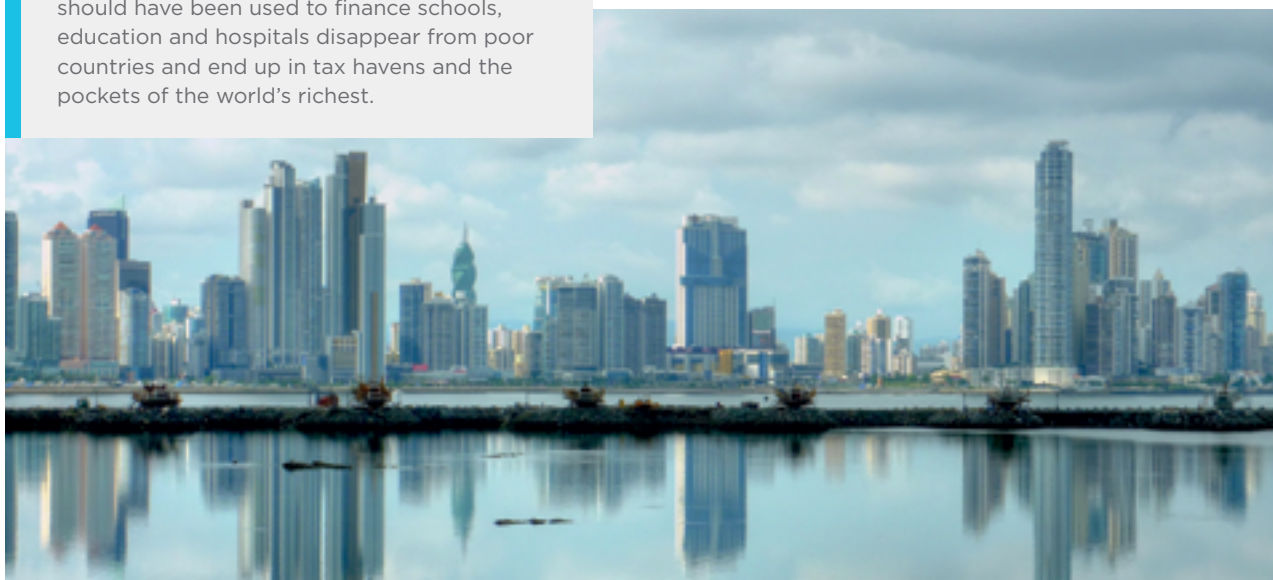


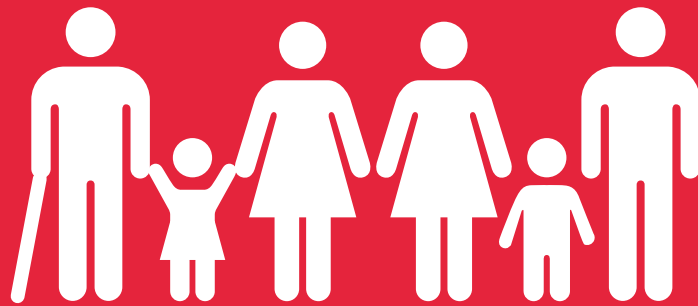
Photo: Matthew Straubmuller / Flickr



**PART 2.**

# **Recommendations for all 17 SDGs**





# **1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

**Contributors: Digni, Save the Children Norway, The Norwegian  
Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM)**

11/11/2019

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In order to distinguish between different degrees of poverty, the terms absolute poverty and relative poverty are applied.

Relative poverty is defined relative to the majority of the population of a country. The relative poverty limit is set as a national poverty line.

needs such as food, clothing, housing, access to basic education and primary health care; lack of choice; and, not least, significant vulnerability to natural disasters, environmental degradation, and climate change, among other things.

The United Nations applies an understanding of poverty that considers lack of security, predictability, choice, and influence. Poverty entails exclusion from meaningful participation in society and violations of basic human rights. The results of poverty include lack of health care, school, food, clothing and work—but also hopelessness, insecurity, and powerlessness of the individual, the household, and at community level.



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# Recommended actions for Norway at the national level

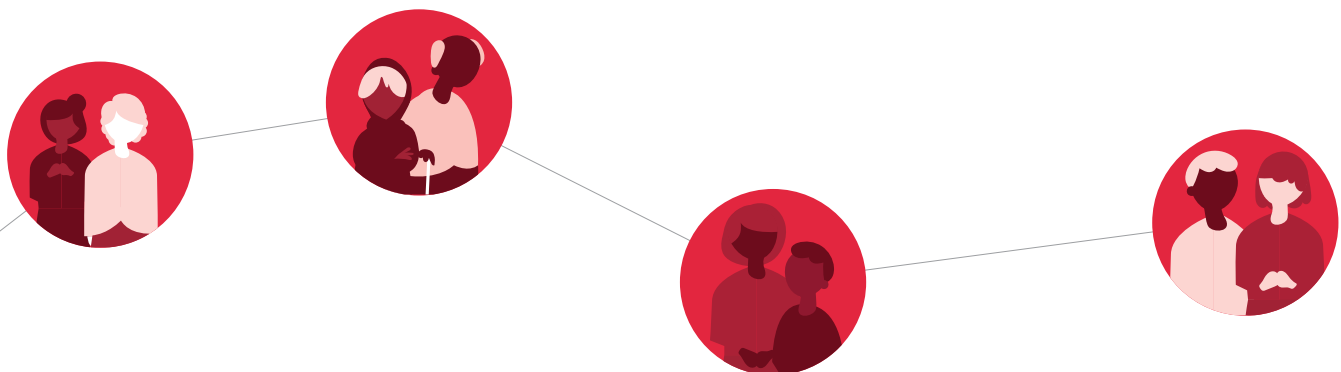
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The goal of eradicating poverty is also relevant to Norway's domestic efforts: According to Statistics Norway, over 8.6% of all children in Norway—84,000 children—belonged to households with persistently low income in 2013. Norway uses the poverty definition of the EU, under which anyone who earns less than 60 percent of median income is considered poor.

The rationale for the Norwegian welfare society is equality and poverty reduction. The Norwegian population has fewer economic challenges than the rest of Europe, according to Statistics Norway. Migrants are among the groups and individuals who are marginalised in Norway. The number of children living in poverty in Norway is increasing, according to figures from Statistics Norway in 2015. Children with an immigrant background make up almost half of children living in households with persistently low income. In its 2015 report on Norway and the SDGs, the FAFO research foundation points out that children are poor because they grow up in poor households. This requires a mix of different measures, such as work places, social safety nets and welfare services, in order to ensure progress on poverty eradication in Norway.

Norway should prioritise measures to reduce differences that make children marginalised from the community. Livelihood challenges tend to be inherited. Norway should prioritise measures that strengthen public health efforts. Social inequality in health forms a systematic pattern throughout the population, and is a result of unequal distribution of knowledge, power, money and resources in the community. Therefore, it must be a goal to strengthen prevention measures.

In a global context, Norway performs well in public health. Meanwhile, the problem of social inequality in health has not been solved, and the state is therefore missing out on health benefits at the population level. Poverty is both a consequence and a cause of inequality in public health, and must be fought against, including inequalities linked to socio-economic status, gender, ethnicity, level of functioning, and sexual orientation.





## **2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**

**Contributors: The Development Fund, Save the Children Norway,  
Rainforest Foundation Norway, The Norwegian Forum for  
Development and Environment (ForUM)**



# Targets



## 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 ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

### 2.a

Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries

### 2.b

Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round

### 2.c

Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility

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The SDGs will end all hunger and malnutrition by 2030 and ensure that everyone—particularly children and vulnerable groups—has one of the basic human rights fulfilled: the right to food. This must include promoting all forms of sustainable agriculture in order to improve living conditions for small-scale farmers and landless agricultural workers, and to ensure access to essential inputs and

Through a determined effort to achieve Goal 2 and the other SDGs, Norway can make an important contribution to eradicating hunger and malnutrition. This must be one of the main precepts of Norwegian development policy the coming 15 years.





A background image showing a market stall. In the foreground, there are large piles of red onions. To the right, there are several ripe, orange-red tomatoes. A person's arm and hand are visible on the left, reaching towards the onions. A metal bowl is partially visible in the bottom left corner. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting an outdoor market environment.

# Assessment

Goal 2 is a challenging SDG to reach. The world's governments must change complex root causes of unequal and unfair distribution of resources and influence. Meanwhile, in many places, accelerating environmental challenges and a growing population are undermining the efforts that are being made. This problem has no single solution, but there is a broad consensus that an effective strategy would include strong measures towards vulnerable small-scale farmers in particular, as well as undernourished and malnourished groups. Sustainable food production alone is not enough. Challenges regarding water and sanitation must

also be resolved in a satisfactory manner.

The increasingly important question of the distribution of resources and the means of production must be raised. This is an important prerequisite for reducing hunger and malnutrition. The targets put strong emphasis on agricultural production. This is of course of crucial importance for achieving the Goals, but sustainable harvesting of the oceans and fish resources will also be important. In this area, Norway may have valuable expertise to share.

Although the fight against hunger has made enormous progress in recent years, climate change, environmental damage and loss of biodiversity is now blocking further progress, and seem entrenched in certain areas.

# Recommended actions for Norway home and abroad

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## Targets 2.1 and 2.2

Target 2.1 of Goal 1 stresses that ensuring access to nutritious food is more important than increasing the production of food. This clearly puts emphasis on the question of distribution. Countries that have an effective democracy and a functioning governance will by and large achieve a more equitable distribution of resources and means of production. Therefore, efforts to strengthen good governance will often be important, and should not be allowed to be overshadowed by more direct endeavours. Not least, Norway must emphasise that every country has a responsibility to fulfil the right to food for all its inhabitants, and therefore must take special measures in order to reach underprivileged and marginalised groups.

45% of child mortality is caused by undernourishment, inhibiting the health, learning and development of 200 million children. Nutrition is a prerequisite for both survival and learning. Despite Norway's large investments in both health and education, nutrition is virtually absent in Norwegian development policy. Proper nutrition during the first 1,000 days (from conception until the child reaches two years) is decisive for children's physical, cognitive, and mental development.

Norway must invest both in direct nutrition programmes for mothers and children, and indirectly through development assistance to nutrition-sensitive agriculture. Nutrition measures must therefore be directed particularly towards pregnant women, nursing mothers, and young children. Agricultural development assistance must be reviewed in order to ensure that it is nutrition sensitive, when relevant. The link between food production and nutrition needs to be strengthened, since it is common to find malnutrition and lack of certain nutrients even in regions with good access to basic foods/carbohydrates. Programmes targeting maternal health will be very important, and the education of girls

and women will help to increase the understanding of the importance of a balanced diet, especially in the first year of a child's life.

## Targets 2.3 and 2.4

Growth in agriculture is more than twice as effective in reducing poverty as growth in other sectors. Norwegian development assistance must be increasingly directed towards the agricultural sector and fisheries. The entire value chain must be considered, and small-scale producers, women and marginalised groups must be prioritised. Cooperatives and other forms of organisation play crucial roles in increasing small farmers' participation in the value chain. Hence, efforts to build farmers' organisations must be strengthened. Increased productivity must be achieved through the use of sustainable means of production. There is also a need for greater efforts to secure land rights, especially for women. Growth in agriculture is important, but should not come at the expense of indigenous peoples' rights to land and resources.

Increasingly, climate change is affecting the equatorial regions where it is already not uncommon to experience crop failure and major crop losses due to drought and other extreme weather events. Irrigation systems, infrastructure, and preventive measures to address extreme weather and quickly rebuild infrastructure will become more and more important. Spatial planning and sustainable management of natural resources must be prioritised. Furthermore, Norway must do its part to increase food production by supporting good national food production schemes, promoting the best possible use of the country's natural resources, and at the same time by building on the assets of family-based agriculture.

## Targets 2.5 and 2.6

Norway has been actively working to achieve the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) goals by including support for the Treaty's benefit-sharing fund, the Global crop diversity trust's work on the Svalbard global seed vault, and other initiatives. These efforts must be continued and strengthened through increased support for the development and strengthening of local seed systems, as well as through local conservation of plant genetic diversity, support for the CGIAR system, and efforts to increase peasants' access to national gene banks. Norway must continue to be a driving force in strengthening and implementing farmers' rights to ensure that plant genetic diversity is a common resource for the benefit of all mankind. At the same time, Norway must support local initiatives through the Treaty's benefit-sharing fund and strengthen the focus on food security in developing countries.

- Norway must work actively to increase investments in agriculture in developing countries, including by ensuring access to credit for small producers (especially women), and by facilitating the construction of infrastructure throughout the value chain—processing, storage and marketing. Norway's efforts to increase investment in agriculture in developing countries must be conducted with respect for international human rights treaties ratified by Norway.

Norway must intensify efforts aiming for international regulations on the dumping of agricultural products, export subsidies, and subsidies of seagoing fisheries. In addition, all countries must have the right to have protection schemes for their own agriculture and food production.

# How civil society can contribute

## The Development Fund: Sustainable agriculture through model farmers

In Malawi, a “model peasant concept” is in use. Selected farmers are trained in sustainable techniques, and they transfer their knowledge to other farmers in their communities. Following the cascade model, each model farmer trains between 20 and 30 other farmers. Since 2012, training in sustainable farming methods and diversification of the main crop resulted in safe food availability all year round for more than 24,000 households, roughly 125,000 people. Most farmers have also gained a surplus that they can sell on local markets. In this way, they can cover the cost of school, clothing, and other necessary items. The model peasant concept has had a positive impact on women and their food production.

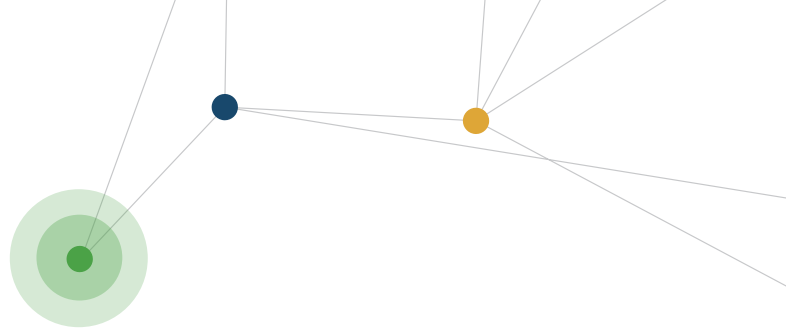


### **3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**

**Contributors: FORUT, Save the Children Norway, The Norwegian  
Children and Youth Council (LNU), International Planned  
Parenthood Federation Norway (Sex og Politikk)**



# Targets



## 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 Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate

## 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

# Main recommendation to the Norwegian government:

## **Prioritise health workers, health systems and prevention**

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Estimates from the World Health Organisation (WHO) show that the world is short of 7.2 million health-care workers, and will be short of 12.9 million by 2035 unless the trend changes.<sup>[i]</sup> The reduction in child and maternal mortality is now threatened by the global health workforce shortage, a fact also stressed by the Norwegian Storting.<sup>[ii]</sup> Health-care workers are the cornerstones of well-functioning health care systems, and the Ebola outbreak has demonstrated how things can go wrong when health systems are weak, underfunded, and health care workers are lacking.<sup>[iii]</sup>

In May 2016, the World Health Assembly (WHA) will adopt a global strategy to counter the health workforce crisis.<sup>[iv]</sup> Ensuring good implementation of this strategy will be essential in order to create universal health coverage (UHC), stronger health systems, and global health security. This will also be a prerequisite for achieving all nine targets under the health SDG. In addition, this global strategy provides a good framework for creating synergies between the global efforts to improve health, nutrition, and education.

All health SDG targets have prevention as a main challenge. Whether to improve maternal and child health, nutrition, reduce the burden of infectious diseases, or

stem the tide of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), mental health, and substance abuse, successful prevention will reduce the population prevalence and reduce the burden on the health care system.

### **It is particularly important that Norway:**

- Follows up the outcomes and recommendations of the Global strategy on Human Resources for Health: Workforce 2030, and the work of the UN Commission on Health Employment and Economic growth<sup>[v]</sup>, where Norway's Minister of Health and Care Services, Mr. Bent Høie, is a member, and prioritise development assistance for the international efforts on health care workers as of 2017.
- Strengthens its focus on prevention in all areas. Nutrition, public health policy, and improving access to health, among other issues, should therefore guide Norway's contribution to health.





## Recommendations related to specific targets

### Targets 3.1 and 3.2







## **4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

**Contributors: Save the Children Norway, Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH)**



# Targets



## 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 15

## 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

### 4.b

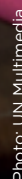
By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries

### 4.c

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

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Education is one of Norway's main priorities in development cooperation, and the Government has made an honest effort to raise awareness and funding of education internationally.









The world is in a global learning crisis. The next few years the world needs 11 million more teachers to ensure that all children receive basic education. Here Norway can boost global learning.

**In this report, we point out four areas where efforts should be further strengthened:**

## 1. Inclusion and “leave no one behind”

Often, there are not only practical and economic challenges that prevent children from learning. In many places, the promise that everyone should have access to inclusive quality education is a political hot potato, and thus difficult to take seriously. Goal 4 challenges established norms, political convictions, and legislation. It means that children with disabilities, Rohingya children, and others from groups facing severe discrimination have the same right to learn from quality education as anyone else. It means that displaced children—with or without papers and whether they happen to be in Lebanon, Nicaragua, the United States, or Norway—have the same right to learn as any other child.

## Recommendations

- Norwegian development assistance must target those who need it the most, and it must prioritise building good public systems that enable governments to fulfil their responsibility to provide inclusive quality education to all children living in the country.
- The Norwegian government should use its seat on the board of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) to promote an inclusive concept of education and education funding through, inter alia, speaking for biased treatment in favour of those children who currently are marginalised from education and those who attend school without learning.





## 2. Teachers

The teacher is the most important resource to ensure that children learn while in school. In the next four years, the world will need another 11 million teachers in order to ensure that all children receive basic education.

### Recommendation

Norway must take the initiative on global urgent action for teachers: with its leading role in global education, Norway is in a good position—through politics and finance—to highlight the teacher’s important role, contribute to the recruitment of new teachers, and ignite a global joint effort to quadruple development assistance to teachers.

## 3. Higher education

Quality higher education is crucial in order to carry out a number of societal functions as well as to achieve the SDGs. Goal 4 states that by 2030, everyone should have access to high-quality, affordable higher education. Today, there are many challenges related to the achievement of this goal. High tuition fees are a major obstacle for poorer student groups in accessing higher education. In addition, access to quality, relevant higher education is a challenge for marginalised groups such as people living with disabilities, indigenous people, young women, and LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/transsexual and intersexed) people. Furthermore, academic freedom is a prerequisite for ensuring quality in higher education, but it is also important to ensure access.

### Recommendation:

Norway should be a driving force for the progressive achievement of free higher education, and for states to

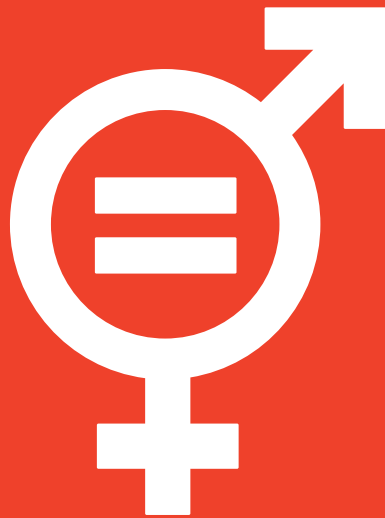
respect and protect the academic freedom of students, academics, and educational institutions. Efforts to protect universities in conflict-affected areas must continue. An important way to secure access to quality higher education for marginalised groups might be earmarked scholarships. Norway should support and promote institutional partnerships across borders.

## 4. Education in various contexts

Over the years, education in conflict and crisis situations has received more attention and improved financing conditions. Yet it remains a challenge that political design, financing, and implementation of educational initiatives are taking place in two distinct camps: those focused on humanitarian aspects, and on the other side, those engaged in long-term development. For example, the humanitarian system is not set up to withstand long term crises such as those we are currently witnessing in Syria and its surrounding regions. This siloed approach may be part of the reason that education in fragile states—which lie in the grey area between the humanitarian and development efforts—is severely underfunded.

### Recommendation

The Norwegian government must push to bridge the gap between efforts focusing on education in humanitarian situations and long-term education efforts in developing countries. This can be done economically through multi-year grants for education in crisis and conflict situations. Politically, Norway can use its global leadership role to link international education initiatives cross-contextually, as has been done through GPE and the new platform for the financing of education in emergencies.



## **5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

# Delmål

## 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

Recognise 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

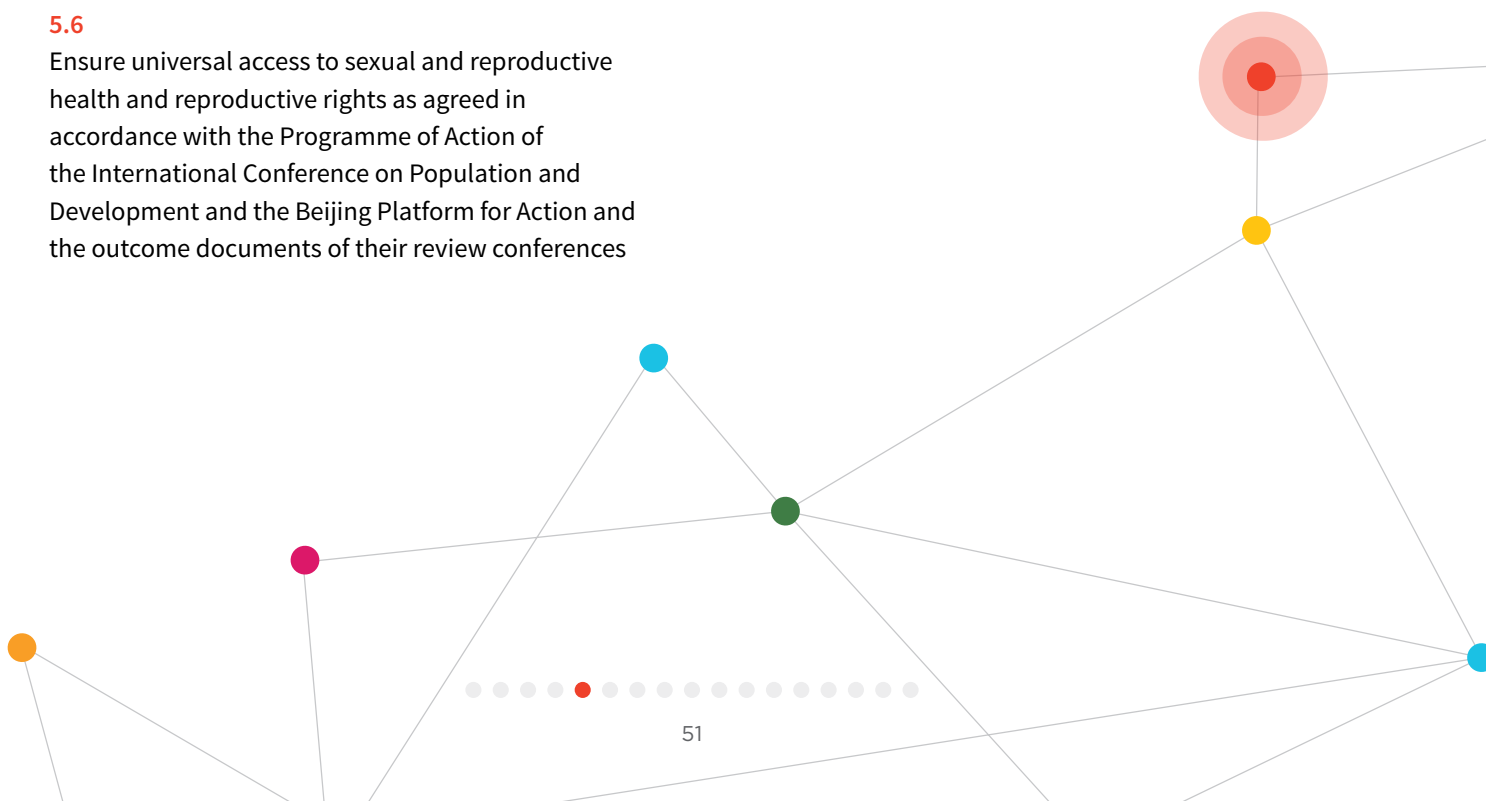
Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

## 5.b

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

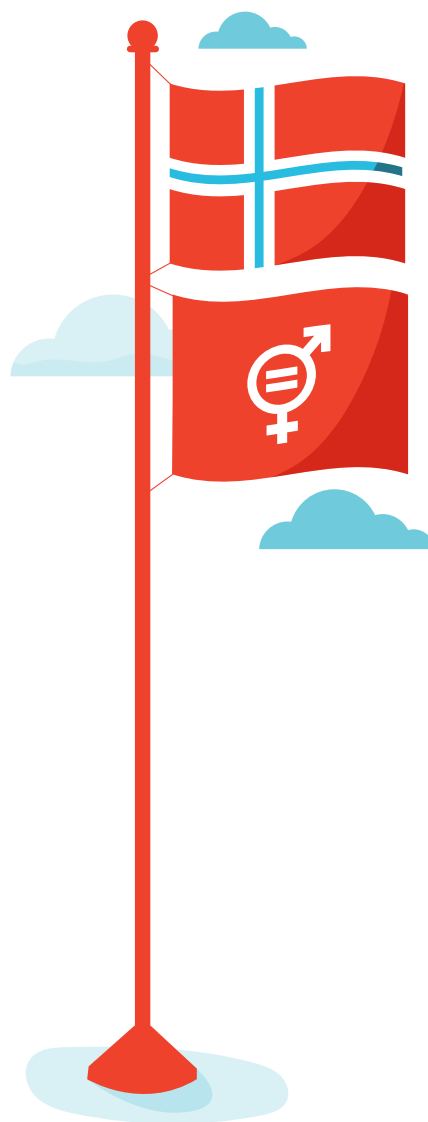
## 5.c

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



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The following comments deal only with Norway's *international* obligations.



11/11/2019



# Recommendations linked to specific targets

Goal 5 on gender equality has 9 targets, covering many aspects of equality. Norway must ensure that the most marginalised and vulnerable girls and women are included in all programmes and plans, so that no one is excluded. Vulnerable groups are not comparable across places and regions, and context and target group analysis should be conducted to identify the right measures in each programme. Vulnerable women can, for example, be women living with disabilities or chronic illness, ethnic and linguistic minorities (including indigenous), lesbians, bisexuals and transgender women, women with low levels of education and/or income, migrants and refugees, female heads of households with dependents, young girls, older women, etc.

## Target 5.2

- Norway should initiate the drafting of an international convention to combat violence against women, following the model of the Council of Europe convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul convention). Violence against women is a huge societal problem, which prevents development and the realisation of women's rights. Combatting violence against women in all countries is a prerequisite for being able to achieve the other gender equality goals. It must therefore be accorded a level of high priority.
- These days, many people have fled their homes. Norway must ensure that people who are victims of trafficking receive the necessary attention and treatment, and that traffickers and other criminals are prosecuted. International cooperation is necessary.

## Target 5.3

- Norway should continue its efforts, both nationally and internationally, in this area. It is important to pay particular attention to increased risks of child marriage and early marriage during war and

conflict. Specific steps must be taken to prevent and reduce risk and to provide the necessary support and assistance to those who have experienced it.

## Target 5.5

Norway could strive, in particular, to ensure safe conditions for female human rights defenders and their organisations. This includes financing that enables organisations to exercise their important role as driving force for change and as watchdogs towards the governments and other actors that influence society and the environment.

## Target 5.6

We expect Norway to continue to be outspoken at the international level and to continue to support projects and programmes within areas perceived by some as controversial, such as access to safe and legal abortions for all women, knowledge-based sexuality education for adolescents, and the human rights of sexual minorities.

## Targets 5a,b,c:

A study by the World Bank (Gender at Work, 2014) shows that over 120 countries have laws that restrict women from employment opportunities through restrictions on either working hours or on the type of work that women can take on. In many countries, women also have limited rights to inheritance and property. Norway should bring this to the table in bilateral talks with relevant countries and in international forums.

The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities









## **6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**



# Targets

## 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 minimising release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally 16

## 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

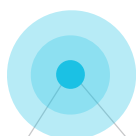
By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

## 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

## 6.b

Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management





# Introduction

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The UN SDG 6 on water and sanitation for all is a clarification of what is required for states to fulfil the human right to water and sanitation. Much remains to be done in terms of developing infrastructure, both to give people access to clean water and in order to ensure sufficiently improved sanitary conditions. While progress on access to water has been tremendous during the effort to realise the MDGs, improvement in sanitary conditions has not seen the same degree of progress. There are significant technical challenges in introducing the necessary infrastructure to urban areas that are currently uncovered. To meet the need for safe sanitation facilities, both technical innovation and tremendous efforts are necessary.

Access to water and sanitation are essential public services that require well-functioning national and local governments. Countries' tax revenues are decisive in enabling the necessary effort. Protection of water resources and the management of these resources for domestic and commercial purposes will also require increased management capacity in many countries.

Furthermore, access to improved water sources and safe sanitation is also a question of distribution. Lack of clean water or adequate sanitation, and the problems that stem from this, are greatest in poor areas. There is also the risk that efforts to build up infrastructure will not reach the poorest, but only the middle class. By far, the largest sanitation infrastructure gap exists in informal urban areas or slums where the poorest live. To achieve universal coverage, programmes must be specifically aligned in such a way that they reach the poor and other marginalised groups.

Contamination of water from human excreta is a serious problem, which can only be handled through the progressive expansion of sanitary infrastructure. Infrastructure for water and sanitation is a governmental

responsibility, and should be borne by national or municipal governments. This type of vital infrastructure often forms natural monopolies, which makes them poorly suited for private providers. Experiences with public-private partnerships shows that the public has often borne a disproportionate share of the overall risk, while the private sector has largely extracted the economic surplus. It is therefore crucial to have transparency and to strengthen governments' negotiating capacity and expertise in situations where public-private partnerships are considered. Norway should also set an example in promoting more public-public partnerships in the water and wastewater sector. Norway has a strong public water and wastewater sector, as well as strong research expertise in this area that is not being drawn upon effectively in development cooperation.

Industry and agriculture are also important sources of water consumption and pollution. In addition to contributing to strengthening administrative capacity, the Norwegian government should demand that Norwegian companies operating abroad report on water management. All large companies should be required to report on water usage and discharges into water, country by country, in their annual reports. Such reporting should be followed up by further clarifications of efficiency requirements of water usage, with quantified targets for priority sectors such as mining and other extractive industries.

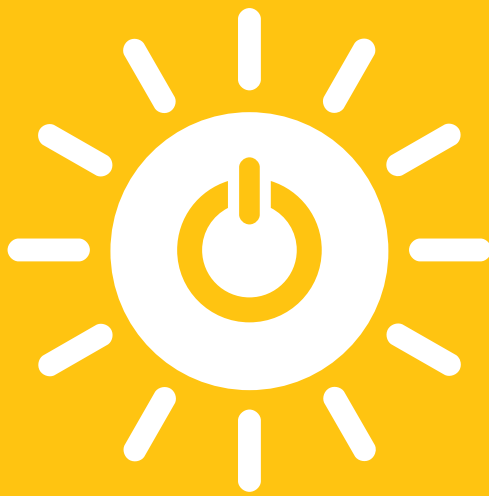
While progress in access to water has been tremendous during the work with the MDGs, the prevalence of improved toilets have lacked. 35% of the world's population still has no access to proper toilets, while 15% do not have access to toilets whatsoever and defecate outside.



# Norway must:

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- Strengthen partner countries' ability to finance adequate, high- quality management.
- Strengthen environmental governments' ability to develop and enforce legislation that enables the protection of naturally occurring water resources and water ecosystems.
- Promote public-public partnership by facilitating collaboration between Norwegian agencies and sister agencies in partner countries.
- Strengthen transparency and governments' negotiating capacity before entering into public-private partnerships.
- Strengthen tax revenues to enable increased investment in public infrastructure.
- Promote a poverty orientation of efforts for water and sanitation by targeting Norwegian development assistance, initiatives via multinational channels, and dialogue with partner countries.
- Strengthen contributions to innovation in sanitation infrastructure.
- Work toward reducing conflicts over transnational water resources by putting pressure on partner countries such as Ethiopia and Laos, in order to ensure good governance and dialogue about the risk of conflict over water resources such as Lake Turkana (Kenya) and Tonle Sap (Cambodia).
- Initiate a Norwegian centre of excellence for water and wastewater within existing administrations or research institutions, with a view toward strengthening water and wastewater innovation in low-income countries, and strengthening public-public agency partnership.
- Require water footprint and water usage efficiency reporting in water-intensive sectors.



## **7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

**Contributors: WWF Norway, Association for International Water  
Studies (FIVAS), The Norwegian Forum for Development and  
Environment**

# Targets

## 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

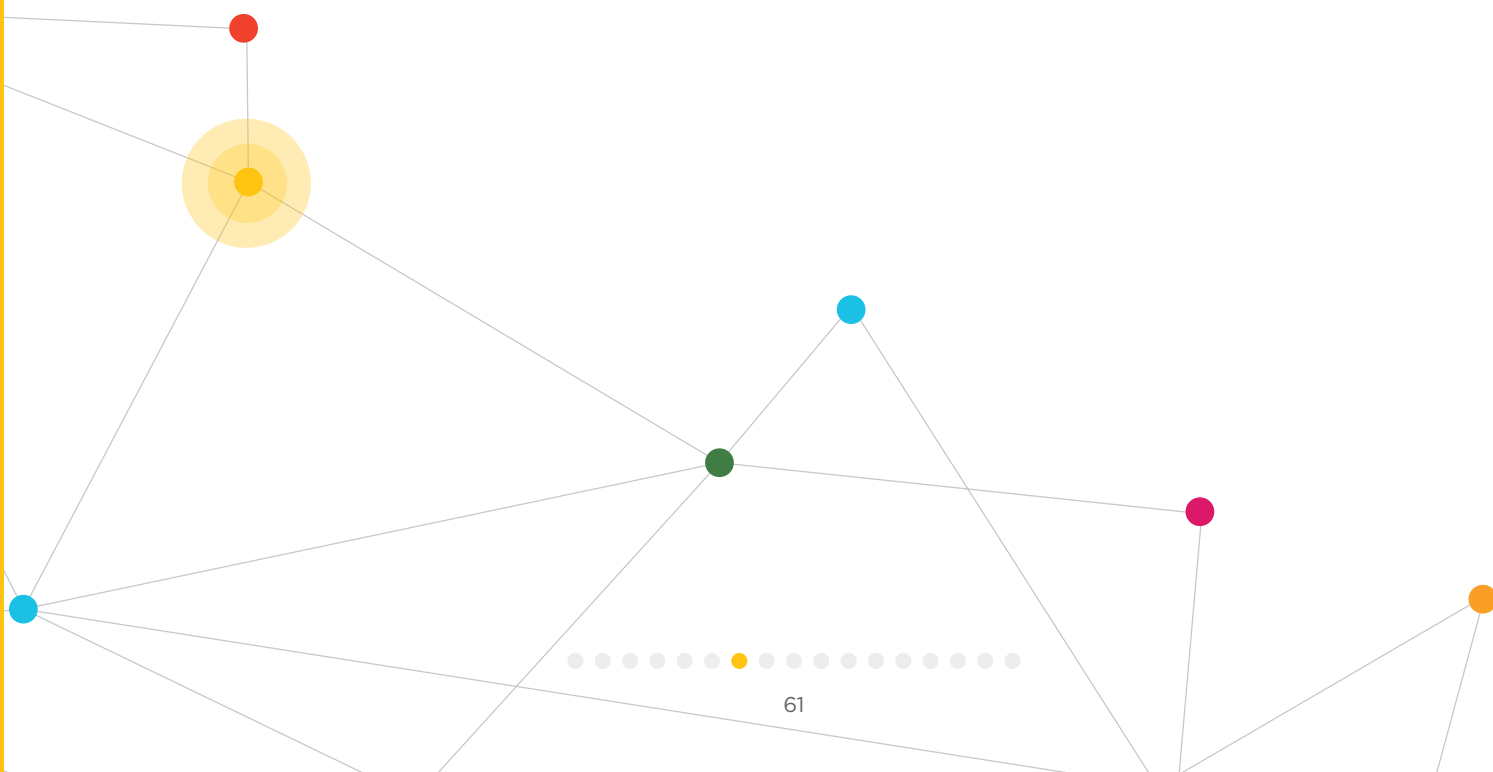
By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency

## 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, and small island developing States



# Introduction

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The level of access to energy and the level of poverty are closely correlated. Worldwide, there are 1.3 billion people who lack access to electricity, and almost three billion people are still cooking over smoky stoves or campfires, according to the International Energy Agency. Four million people die each year from breathing harmful fumes from cooking, using solid fuels over open fires, or bad cooking stoves. The use of charcoal also increases the strain on forests already threatened by deforestation.

Energy is also linked to climate change. It is the rich countries that have the primary responsibility for reducing global greenhouse gas emissions, but the magnitude

of the challenge suggests that all countries must contribute, according to their ability and capacity. If current developing countries promote renewable energy rather than fossil fuels (locking them into a fossil-intensive energy production for decades to come), they will achieve both poverty reduction and development. In addition, they will also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and avoid new ones.

Bringing people permanently out of poverty is one of the main objectives of Norwegian development assistance, and climate is a priority. In this way, the SDG 7 on sustainable energy access for all coincides extremely well with Norwegian development assistance.

## How Norway can contribute to SDG 7

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**There are several ways that Norway can influence the achievement of the SDG 7. In the following section, we propose the creation of a new development assistance programme, a new mandate for the GPFG, and measures that Norway should implement at home.**

### **A new development assistance programme for renewable energy**

The Norwegian Storting recognises the benefits of, and the need for, making renewable energy a priority focus of Norwegian development assistance, and has asked the Government to organise Norwegian energy development assistance in such a way that it combats poverty to a greater extent than it does today. In Recommendation 7S (2015–2016) to the Storting, the majority of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence emphasises the need for additional, small-scale renewable solutions in order to stabilise and secure energy supply for economic growth and for public, social, and

economic well-being. IEA assumes that most people who get access to electricity will receive it from decentralised solutions such as mini grids, or from home-based systems such as rooftop solar panels. Renewable energy solutions like these can contribute to poverty alleviation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and may have positive effects on health and biodiversity.

Support for small-scale renewable energy solutions that combat poverty differs sharply from the more traditional Norwegian energy development assistance to large-scale power stations and distribution grid development, and requires its own approach. As an overarching principle, the programme should be propelled by local businesses and CSOs, in a “bottom-up” approach that complements national and international efforts on large-scale development of power stations and electricity distribution. Support for the development of the cooking stove and sustainably produced fuel sectors must be a key element in Norway’s efforts in the field. Experience suggests that small-scale solutions are most





The International Energy Agency has estimated that most poor who will gain access to electricity will get it via home-based systems such as solar panels on the roof. It can help reduce poverty, disease and greenhouse gas emissions.

effective in reaching poor and marginalised populations with modern energy.

Norway has long experience with energy development assistance, as well as access to the expertise needed to build an ambitious and comprehensive renewable energy programme that delivers on SDGs 7, 13 and 15: Access to energy, combating climate change, and forest conservation. Efforts to promote clean energy for all must be designed to meet both SDG 13 on combating climate change, and SDG 15 on life on land—especially in terms of forest conservation, which is the most important source of energy in many countries. These efforts must also ensure broad participation from large- and small-scale businesses operating in the markets for both centralised and decentralised energy solutions, CSOs, the finance industry, academia, and labour unions.

## A new mandate for the Government Pension Fund Global

Norway's most powerful tool for promoting climate financing and a global green transformation is probably the Government Pension Fund Global (GPF). It should be mandated to invest directly in renewable energy such as solar power and wind energy plants (rather than only in stocks). GPF is the world's largest sovereign wealth

fund, and the principles it is governed by give a signal and add impetus among world investor groups. This was clearly demonstrated in 2015, when the Storting decided to reduce the Fund's coal investments. With an infrastructure mandate as proposed below, the Fund will be a catalyst of future technology and will bring the prices of renewable energy down. It is also very likely that a shift from investing in the fossil fuel industry to investing in renewable energy will be very profitable in the long run.

## Measures in Norway

According to Statistics Norway (SSB), Norway has the world's second highest per capita electricity consumption. By using our energy more efficiently, we can avoid having to build more energy production in vulnerable natural environments, and Norway can export more renewable energy to Europe, increasing the share of renewable energy in Europe. A long-term change for Norway from being an exporter of fossil fuels to becoming a provider of solutions for a renewable future will be an important contribution to the global effort to achieve Goal 7. This must be done in a way that does not involve major encroachment in valuable natural areas.







## How Norwegian organisations are contributing to achieving this goal

Many Norwegian CSOs are actively supporting the shift to renewable energy in Norway and internationally. CSOs in Norway have played an active role in shaping the politics of Norwegian investment and the GPF, and have developed strong expertise in order to contribute to further policymaking. Norwegian CSOs have also been key to Norway's international efforts for clean energy. An example is the WWF's pilot project in Kasere in Uganda to ensure access to markets for solar power for the poor. The project has attracted attention at the national level, and the methods developed in this project can benefit several countries in the region as a whole. Cooperation with CSOs in this field should be strengthened.



## **8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**

**Contributors: The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO), Association for International Water Studies (FIVAS), The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU), The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment**

# Targets



## 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 formalisation 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

## 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 operationalise a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organisation

# Introduction

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**Sound business practices are needed to create jobs and fight poverty. In order to contribute to achieving the SDGs, business must take social responsibility and care about more than the bottom line. Trade and investment should be in line with human rights and the Earth's tolerance limits, and jobs must be decent. The economic values created must also provide value for society.**

Creating sound jobs is one of the biggest challenges for all countries as we move towards 2030. Norway was the first country to launch a national strategy on decent work (September 2008). <sup>[1]</sup> The strategy aims to coordinate and intensify Norway's efforts to promote workers' rights world-wide. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimated in 2015 that by 2020, the world will need 600 million new jobs to meet global unemployment and to keep pace with demographic developments. But jobs alone are not sufficient to ensure poverty reduction. Workplaces must be decent, which means respect for fundamental and universal workers' rights, a fair living wage, and social protection. <sup>[2]</sup>

When planning new economic activities and measures to create jobs, the sustainability principle, together with prudent, and long-term management of natural resources, should form the basis of the plan. The world needs a global green transformation, and Norway must contribute both nationally and internationally. Governments must facilitate job creation and economic growth that does not pollute or deplete renewable resources. Environmental sustainability and social considerations must play a central role in all aspects of financial planning. Governments must build strong environmental standards and control mechanisms, thereby avoiding an environmental "race to the bottom" to attract businesses preferring weak environmental regulations.

In practice, short-term considerations unfortunately often trump long-term ones. For example, the creation of a large number of jobs during a relatively brief period of construction is used as an argument for implementing large-scale infrastructure development projects.

But when the construction is finished, and the natural environment is left damaged and ruined, workers often return to the poverty they came from. Coal-mines and power plants are developed in many places without considering alternative, renewable sources of energy that neither pollute locally or globally, nor will be charged with fees or restrictions in the future. Studies also show that the construction of renewable energy creates at least twice as many jobs as fossil energy development.

The Government's White paper No. 35 (2014–2015) "Working together: Private sector development in Norwegian development cooperation", <sup>[3]</sup> looks at how business development can contribute to development in poor countries. Investments are important for economic development, but economic development must include employment and the creation of decent jobs if investments are to contribute to development and poverty reduction.

One of the cornerstones of peaceful trade and development for societies is the private sector's positive contribution. In order for businesses to contribute to create stable and sustainable communities with increased social and economic well-being, it is crucial that businesses respect nature's tolerance limits as well as fundamental human rights. Continuous diligence reviews for human rights must be carried out. "Precautionary" and "polluter pays" principles must be applied in relation to the environment.

Micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises play an important role in the economy and for people worldwide. They provide most new jobs for the poor, by far. Despite this, these companies' needs are often not a priority for governments in their efforts to attract investment and create jobs. Norway should target measures supporting micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries, including increasing funding for startup businesses and entrepreneurs, providing support for the establishment of local incubation centres, and funds that could secure venture capital and capacity building for small-scale businesses.

In the period from 2007 to 2013, Norfund received 53%

of all Norwegian development assistance for business development. The evaluation of this institution<sup>[4]</sup> reveals a lack of documentation regarding the development impact. The majority of the investments would have been implemented even without Norfund's involvement. Norfund's focus on renewable energy, agriculture, and finance are based on strategic considerations, but an increase in economic activity is in itself no guarantee of poverty reduction or decent jobs. At a minimum, Norfund should demonstrate that the businesses they invest in respect fundamental and universal labour rights, pay a fair wage that workers can live on, and give them social protection. At the same time the fund's investments must be sustainable and must not lead to environmental destruction or increased greenhouse gas emissions.

The use of and investment in tax havens is an obstacle to sustainable growth, as it weakens countries' tax revenues and facilitates capital flight. This is a major obstacle to inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full employment, and decent work for all. Norwegian policy on coherence requires a new review of Norfund, state-owned companies, and the GPF's use of tax havens.

As many as 36 per cent of the world's 202 million unemployed are young people between the ages of 15 and 24. The figure is three times higher than for the general population. Sixty percent of young people in developing countries are neither attending school nor working, and education and the labour market are increasingly noncompliant. Over 500 million young people are struggling to survive on less than 2 dollars a day. In the Government's proposals regarding work-life strategy in development policy in White paper 35 "Working together", young people are not mentioned at all.

[1] [https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/UD/Vedlegg/csr/decentwork\\_nor.pdf](https://www.regjeringen.no/globalassets/upload/UD/Vedlegg/csr/decentwork_nor.pdf)

[2] <http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/decent-work/lang-en/index.htm>

[3] <https://www.regjeringen.no/no/dokumenter/meld.-st.-35-20142015/id2423253/?ch=1&q=>

[4] Gaia, January 2015





Photo: UN Multimedia

- Promote the decent work agenda both nationally and internationally, and ensure that specific mechanisms are put in place regarding follow-up and respect for the principles of decent work.
- Promote respect for the decent work agenda among Norwegian companies that invest abroad. This implies respect for fundamental and universal workers' rights, a fair living wage, and social protection.
- Strengthen efforts to follow up and to ensure that decent work and ILO core conventions are integrated into the Norwegian and international trade policy and trade agreements.
- Monitor and facilitate to ensure that Norwegian companies, both state-owned and private, follow high business standards with regard to respect for human rights, including labour rights, and compliance with the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
- Require Norwegian companies and financial institutions that receive public support to implement due diligence reviews based on the UN Guiding principles for business and human rights. Companies that receive public support must also provide overall and non-financial reports and on how the companies' operations underpin the goals of human rights, including labour rights and sustainable development.
- Companies that receive support for private sector development must apply the precautionary principle to environmental questions, and generally follow best practices with respect to environmental regulations.
- Contribute to and support developing countries' efforts to develop and enforce policies against pollution and in favour of the sustainable, long-term management of renewable resources.
- Encourage partner countries to develop long-term management plans for the exploitation of







## **9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation**

**Contributors: Association for International Water Studies (FIVAS),  
The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment**

# Targets



## 9.1

Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border 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 industrialisation 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

## 9.a

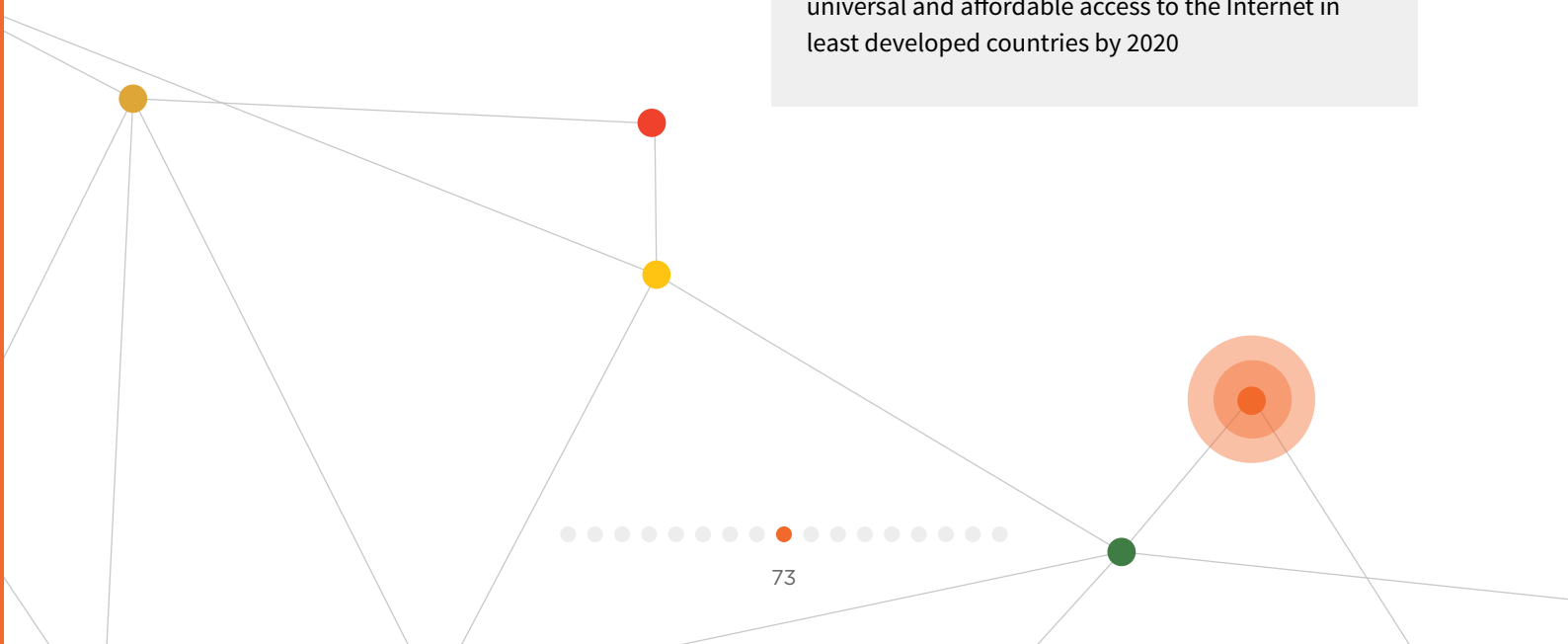
Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

## 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









## **10: Reduce inequality within and among countries**

**Contributors: Save the Children Norway, Norwegian People's Aid,  
Rainforest Foundation Norway**

# Targets

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## 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

### 10.a

Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organisation 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

# Challenges, solutions and recommendations for Norway

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Economic inequality is widening, both within and among countries. According to a 2016 Oxfam report, the world's richest one percent will soon own more than all of the rest combined. In its report *Projecting progress: reaching the SDGs by 2030*, the UK think tank the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) reviews the status of a range of SDGs. The report finds that, in many areas, the world is fortunately on the right path. On inequality, however, ODI writes that not only are we far from achieving the goal of reducing income inequality, we are moving in the wrong direction. This is not accidental, but the result of deliberate policies. The negative trend will continue towards 2030 unless clear policy measures are taken.

Greater economic inequality has many negative consequences for society. It is a source of frustration and anxiety, and has a negative effect on economic growth and prosperity for most people. Wealth concentration and control over resources provides political and economic elites with disproportionate influence to consolidate and promote their privileges and to dominate public debate. Meanwhile, those who have the least, in terms of both wealth and opportunity, have neither a say nor a place at the table when decisions are made. This undermines democratic processes. Norway must support people in organising for more democratic decision-making and changes in policy. It is essential to promote transparency and to support media that can provide access to information and analysis.

Reduction of inequality cannot be done at the stroke of a pen. It requires effort across many areas, and is therefore closely linked to the other the SDGs, including poverty eradication, health, education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth, good governance, climate, and global partnership. Fully achieving these goals will require the world to move in the right direction as well as the reduction of inequalities of opportunity.

The commitment to “leave no one behind” is a key feature of the SDGs: no groups in society should be left standing on the sidelines of development in the next 15

years. This requires addressing the underlying reasons why some groups are disproportionately represented among those not reached by the MDGs. Millions of children living with disabilities, indigenous people, girls, ethnic minorities and children born in the wrong region of a country will not survive, go to school or be safe—just because of who they are or where they are born. It is no coincidence that these groups have been left behind—it is the result of systematic oversight, neglect, and, not least, discrimination. Indigenous people are, for example, discriminated against and marginalised at a range of levels. This situation is compounded by a lack of recognition of their collective rights in legislation and national policies.

Reducing inequality of opportunities is important, but is not sufficient to overcome economic inequality. It is necessary that work be well paid, that wage differences are not too wide, that small farmers have access to resources, that women have equal rights and access to economic resources, that social safety nets are in place, and that resources are redistributed more evenly.

Although inequality between countries has declined somewhat, the lion's share of financial and technological resources remains concentrated in the Global North, and the global distribution of power is very uneven. Developing countries do not have a seat at the table when important decisions are made, including in the fight against illicit capital flight.

Norway was a pioneer in addressing the reduction of inequality in international development policy, when the Storting adopted White paper No. 25 (2012–13). The Government has since placed less emphasis on this, including in the work with the SDGs. Norway is well placed to be a driving force for such policies internationally. We can point to our own experience which demonstrates that a more equitable distribution of resources, efforts to reach excluded groups, and the provision of universal welfare are both achievable and beneficial to social development.



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People with disabilities, refugees, ethnic and religious minorities, girls and indigenous people are frequently excluded. With the SDGs, world leaders are to reach everyone, leaving no-one behind.



The background of the page is a close-up photograph of several pieces of traditional woven textiles. These textiles feature intricate geometric and abstract patterns in a variety of colors, including deep blues, vibrant reds, yellows, and greens. The weaving technique appears to be a traditional loom weave, creating a textured surface. The textiles are layered, with some showing more complex designs than others.

## Examples of CSO contributions

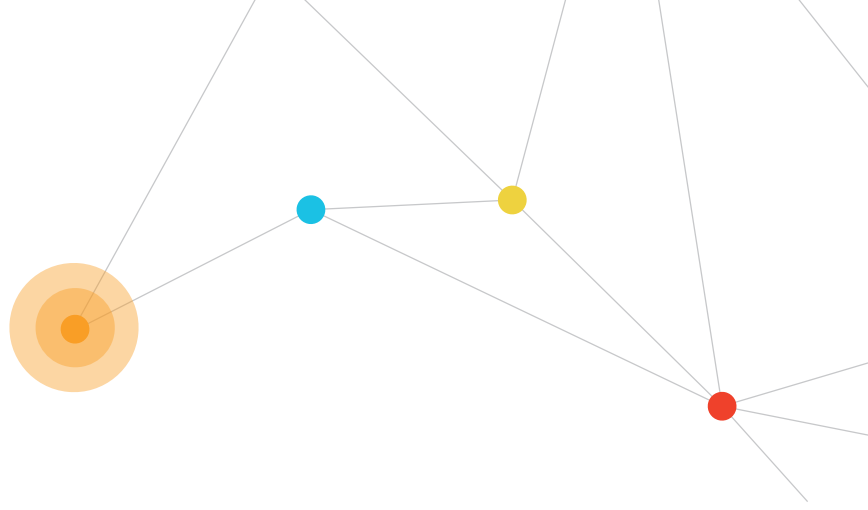
- A** In Ecuador, women from the indigenous community Canelos—usually a marginalised group—have gained a better position in society by increasing their food security and becoming less vulnerable to climate change. The women have been trained in traditional forest management, medicinal plants and climate change, and have revived their traditional knowledge about sustainable agroforestry. They are now in a better position to protect the forest, adapt to climate change, and increase their food security. The project was developed with participation from both young and elderly indigenous women who actively shared knowledge with each other. They were supported by Norway through the Rainforest Foundation Norway.
- B** In a few countries, economic inequality has been reduced over the last decade as a result of the mobilisation of CSOs. Bolivia is an example of this. The broad-based indigenous and peasant movement CSUTSB has mobilised against privatisation and in favour of non-discriminatory and redistributive policies. They contributed to Bolivia electing its first indigenous president, Evo Morales (2006), and subsequently achieved breakthrough recognition for their views in the Constitution (2009) and in political redistribution measures. Norwegian People's Aid supported CSUTSB in its organising and mobilisation.
- C** Save the Children has launched an international campaign – Every Last Child - to ensure that excluded groups of children survive, learn and are safe. A new Save the Children report documents that certain groups of children—those living with disabilities, indigenous people, girls, displaced children, minorities, and children born in disadvantaged regions of a country—have been systematically forgotten, neglected and discriminated against. Save the Children, both in Norway and worldwide, is raising awareness and building knowledge of the fact that some children's rights are not being met, simply because of who they are or where they were born. Save the Children works to ensure that government efforts at all levels are directed towards reaching excluded children first, and that they build poor countries' abilities and opportunities to meet the rights of their populations, and the organisation is now strengthening its own efforts to reach children that the world has forgotten.



# **11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

**Contributors: The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU),  
Spire (The youth organisation of the Development Fund),  
The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment**

# Targets



## 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 urbanisation 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

### 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 utilising local materials

Today, more than half of the world's population lives in towns and cities, and by 2030 this proportion will swell to about 60%. Ninety percent of this increase will take place in developing countries. Rapid urbanisation requires coherent development in multiple sectors and at all levels—local, regional, national and international. Large parts of the world's poor live in urban areas and increasing inequality is a global challenge.

More than 800 million people live in slums, and the number is increasing rapidly. Around half of all slum dwellers are young people under 18 years old, a particularly vulnerable group. This development will explode in the coming decades, especially in the major cities south of the Sahara. The rapid growth of slum cities is a huge challenge for infrastructure, water, sanitation, local community, climate, and health. Every year, 1.5 million children in slums die due to diseases related to water and sanitation.

### Recommendation 11.1

Norway should take the global urbanisation trend seriously when drafting its future development policies, and provide political weight to the UN's process of adopting a new urban agenda. Young people in the slum cities can become a tremendous asset or a potential problem. More should be done to ensure that young people have freedom of action and opportunities to create meaningful lives. That can best be achieved by a rights-based approach to education, employment, democracy and a strong civil society. Ecological considerations must be one of the key values of urban development. Local food production in the form of urban agriculture should be an integral part of urban planning and urban development.

Norway is well placed to achieve the goals of inclusive, secure, robust, and sustainable cities and communities nationally, but there are several areas in which Norway can do more.

Air pollution measurements taken in cities in Norway including Oslo and Bergen are sometimes among the highest in Europe. Cities make up only 3% of the world area, but account for 75% of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Seven million people die annually from diseases that can be linked to air pollution. This is a major problem both in the Global North and South, and the potential

for improvement is huge. Eighty percent of Norway's population currently lives in urban and suburban areas, and most of the population growth in the years ahead will take place in the largest urban areas. Cities will have to be an important part of the solution to climate problems.

### Recommendation 11.6

Norway should take immediate measures to reduce emissions in cities and towns to below recommended limits. Norway should draft a comprehensive plan for the sustainable and climate-friendly development of Norwegian cities and towns. This should include infrastructure plans based on environmentally-friendly public transport, excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation, clean air, and noise-free environment. Preservation of vegetation, blue-green infrastructure, and territorial cohesion are important for biodiversity, and will provide cleaner air and water as well as reduced noise.

Inequality is increasing globally, and we are also seeing this trend in Norway. Housing is very expensive, and governments must do more in order to ensure access to decent housing conditions for all. The financial crisis in the US demonstrated to us how we are part of a vulnerable system that could potentially make many people homeless, even in Norway, where private households have high debt levels. The number of homeless is on the rise in Norway, and there is less and less room for them in public open spaces.

### Recommendation 11.7

Norway should do more to ensure decent housing and to avoid increased polarisation of standards of living. Norway should do more to counteract homelessness, and should assess conditions for marginalised and undocumented populations. Norway should do more to ensure that access to greenery and urban public open spaces is available to everyone, regardless of purchasing power, age or disability. Norway should intensify its efforts, including financially, regarding the "Norway Universally Designed by 2025" action plan so that public open spaces, transport, and work places, among others, become accessible for people living with disabilities.





More than half of the world's population live in cities, 800 million in slums. This figure increases rapidly, with enormous challenges for infrastructure, water, sanitation, climate and health.





## **12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

**Contributors: The Future In Our Hands—FIOH, The Norwegian Forum  
for Development and Environment, PERL/UNITWIN  
(Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living)**

# Targets

## 12.1

Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, 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 minimise 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

## 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

Rationalise 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 minimising the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities

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Today's levels of consumption are not environmentally sustainable. To ensure good living conditions for

Sustainable production and consumption are considered the cornerstones for achieving sustainable development. It may eventually lead to the limitation of climate change, increased quality of life for all people on Earth, and economic growth.

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Today, Norwegian policies have too many shortcomings to really shift consumption in a more sustainable direction. The government has declared its support for the ambition to reduce the environmental impacts of consumption. Taxes on fossil fuels and other environmental taxes on passenger traffic prove that measures such as these are effective, but this mindset should be used to a much broader extent in other areas as well. Existing action plans overlook important aspects of sustainable consumption, and are insufficient to achieve the Goals.

# Recommendations



**Goal 11 has 11 targets, but few of these are very tangible. We therefore recommend several concrete measures in the short term:**

## **1. Develop a plan to operationalise all targets**

The plan must specify what these targets should entail in the Norwegian context, what Norway's level of ambition should be, which indicators should be used to measure achievements, and what further actions will be required in the future. Such a plan should also include cross-sectoral measures that could reduce the overall social and environmental impact of consumption. For example: increasing VAT on physical goods, reducing or eliminating VAT on repairs and other services, prohibiting sales of products with hazardous or polluting parts, prohibiting the sale of products at a loss, and more rigorous durability requirements for products.

## **2. Draft a national action plan for the 10-Year Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production**

Such an action plan should be the result of a broad and continuous consultation process with civil society, academia, researchers and industry. It must cover all of the current major themes of the 10-year framework (e.g.: public procurement, tourism, consumer information, buildings, food, and sustainable lifestyles and education) and identify what has been achieved and what remains to be done. All ministries should participate in formulating measures for the action plan, and should contribute to its implementation through their budget allocations. Two main areas should be given special attention: information dissemination and education.

### 3. Make an action plan for how Norway can halve food waste (target 12.3)

The Storting has also confirmed its commitment to this goal, in the voting of its reading of “Representative’s proposal to halve food wastage in Norway”. This plan should include measures regarding information, regulations, tax, and establishing food centres to handle food surpluses. One of the simplest and most effective ways that consumers can contribute to both the environment and society is to throw away less food.

In Norway, each year we throw away more than 350,000 tonnes of edible food. Almost two-thirds of this wastage takes place in households. In an average family with children, the equivalent of one in every five shopping bags of food that is purchased is thrown straight in the trash. The rest, 130,000 tons of food, is discarded by the food industry, at the wholesale level and by retail chains. Halving food wastage in Norway would be the equivalent of:

- Eliminating the emissions of 120,000 cars.
- Meeting the caloric needs of 300,000 people.
- Liberating approximately six percent of Norway’s total farmland.

Today, Norway has no specific, comprehensive plan to reduce overall food wastage. Players in the food industry and the grocery sector have established an industry collaboration programme to reduce food wastage, but this far from sufficient.

### Recommendations 12.6

- Expand the reporting requirements for companies that receive government subsidies. The reports must include broad, non-financial reporting, including how companies’ operations underpin the Goals relating to human rights and sustainable development. The reports should be designed so that the results are comparable and can show trends over time, both within each company and between different companies. Furthermore, country-by-country reporting must be integrated.
- Require a thorough due diligence review, based on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, from companies applying for government support to set up operations in developing countries. This will form the basis for the allocation and for annual performance reporting. There must be consequences for the companies if targets are not met.

### Recommendation 12.8c:

- Norway must eliminate indirect subsidies to the petroleum industry. Partially state-owned companies should be given instructions to ensure that sustainability is taken into consideration throughout the supply chain, and they report should regularly on progress in this area.





Food waste is a major global problem. With better distribution we could feed the whole world. Norway throws away tons of eatable food every year.





# **13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\***

**Contributors: WWF Norway, Caritas, The Development Fund,  
Rainforest Foundation Norway, The Norwegian Forum for  
Development and Environment (ForUM)**

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

Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

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

Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilising 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 operationalise the Green Climate Fund through its capitalisation as soon as possible

Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalised communities

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

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Goal 13 has implications for many of the other 17 Goals. Continued economic growth is a necessity for fighting hunger and poverty in many cases, and historically we have seen a direct correlation between economic growth and greenhouse gas emissions. This correlation must be broken in order to achieve the necessary global





Photo: Julie Lunde Lillesæter / Differ Media

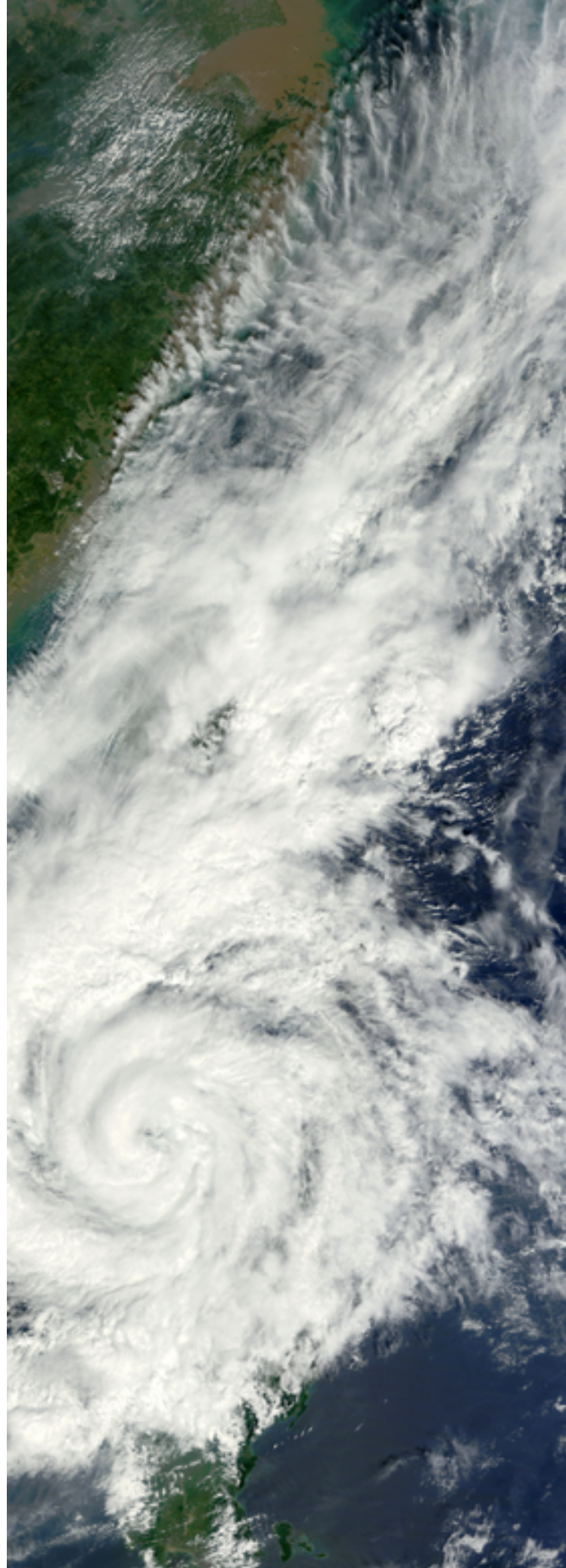
Photo: Julie Lunde Lillesæter / Differ Media





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Norway has not done enough to prepare our cities and our infrastructure for a changing climate and a rising sea level. In the years to come we will see more floods, landslides and storms, and the need for investments in emergency preparedness arrangements is swiftly surging. In some parts of the country we can observe that there is a higher level of awareness about





A satellite image of a large, swirling hurricane or cyclone over the ocean. The storm features a prominent, bright white eye in the center, surrounded by dense, spiraling cloud bands. The surrounding ocean surface is visible as a dark blue area with some whitecaps. The image is oriented vertically, with the storm's eye at the top right.

Norway's most powerful tool for climate financing and the global green transformation is probably the GPF, the world's largest sovereign wealth fund. The principles that guide the GPF send an important signal to the world's investors. With an infrastructure mandate as proposed below, the GPF could drive future technology developments and contribute to reduced prices for renewable energy. It is also very likely that a shift of investments from the fossil fuel industry to renewable energy will be very profitable in the long run.



# Recommendations for Norway's actions at home and abroad

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## Recommendations 13.1

- At the national and local levels, climate adaptation must be incorporated into all planning, coordinated at the national government level. Emergency plans must be drafted for dealing with extreme weather and crop failures, among others, while emergency preparedness authorities must receive the necessary resources to meet the challenges.
- At the international level, Norway must contribute to capacity building, early warning systems, and insurance, in order to prepare developing countries to better manage both sudden extreme weather conditions and the climate damage that occurs over time.
- Norway should contribute to strengthening research capacity, institutional structures and funding mechanisms so that developing countries can develop climate-smart agriculture on a large scale.

## Recommendations 13.2

- Efforts to reduce Norway's domestic emissions must be intensified. The development of a modern rail network in Norway, with connections to Europe, must be accelerated, and other public, fossil-fuel free transportation solutions must be promoted, especially around the major cities.
- All new oilfields must be electrified from shore. All subsidies for exploration activity must end. An increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> tax should be considered.
- Efforts regarding energy efficiency must be intensified. Development of renewable energy sources must be strengthened.
- Norway must adopt an ambitious climate bill with national emission targets for 2020, 2030 and 2050. When the law is adopted, the Government must present annual climate budgets along with the annual fiscal budget. The new climate budgets

must show how the Government plans to achieve the climate targets for 2020, 2030 and until 2050, and describe how the proposed fiscal budget will influence Norway's greenhouse gas emissions.

## Recommendations 13.3

- In a democracy such as Norway's, it is crucial that citizens understand the challenges that climate change is creating, what is required in terms of measures and adaptations, and which international commitments Norway has accepted—e.g. under the terms of the Paris Agreement. Article 12 of the Agreement commits countries to a broad effort that could foster popular support for the climate measures. The Agreement also commits each country to implementing its own goals and measures to ensure its success.
- Through educational initiatives at all levels and information campaigns, Norway must therefore ensure that the population has a sufficient level of knowledge. It is not sufficient to leave this to a more or less random public media debate. Norway must apply measures in such a way that people are as familiar as possible with the climate threat that affects everyone, but in the long term it should place particular focus on the younger segment of the population.
- Public institutions must be able to contribute based on their professional qualifications, and financial and technical resources must be allocated to this.
- Funding should be made available for NGOs to contribute to increasing knowledge about climate change, adaptation, and how individuals and institutions can help with preventive, constructive efforts.



## Recommendations 13.a

equities. With an infrastructure mandate GPFG will help to drive technology development forward and the prices of renewable energy down. It is also very likely that shifting investments from fossil fuels to renewable energy will be very profitable in the long run. Norway must signal its intention to actively use the Fund to help finance renewable energy, energy efficiency, and other forms of emission reduction, and to completely exclude the coal industry and, in the long run, fossil fuels in general.

## Recommendations 13.b

## How Norwegian organisations contribute to achieving the Goals

### Example from WWF Norway

*Green restructuring* in Kasese in Uganda: People are replacing kerosene lamps with electric lights recharged by the sun, and are beginning to use modern cookstoves that save energy. Clean energy leads to reduced and avoided greenhouse gas emissions, as well as to greater prosperity and better health.

Sustainable cities in China: The Low Carbon City Initiative project fosters lower emissions and less pollution by developing low emission models for transport, buildings, and waste handling in Chinese cities.

### Example from Rainforest Foundation Norway

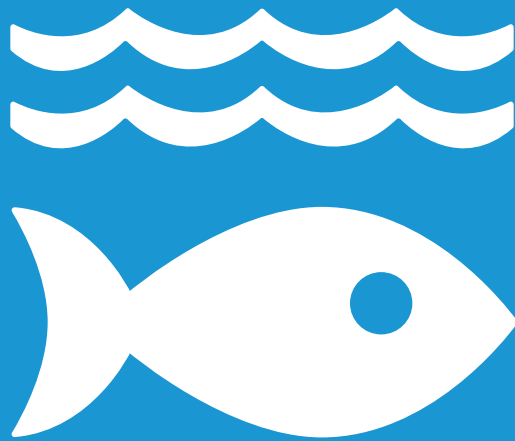
*Preventing climate change by reviving agroforestry in the Ecuadorian Amazon:* In Ecuador, 30 women from the local community Canelos partnered with the indigenous group Kichwa, working to revive their traditional knowledge about sustainable agroforestry with a focus on climate. They had ceased to maintain a variety of useful species and trees. As part of the project, they planted a total of 10,344 plants of 141 different species, including medicinal plants and trees to build houses. As a consequence of the project, their traditional knowledge was revived, and they are now in a better position to protect forests, acclimate to climate change, and increase their food security.

### Example from The Development Fund

*Helping to strengthen vulnerable local communities'* resilience and capacity to adapt to climate change. By supporting local seed systems through measures for the conservation, development, and use of plant genetic resources, losses in the agricultural sector due to climate change are reduced. Local seed banks ensure that locally adapted, high-quality seeds are available to farmers at all times. This is particularly important in times of crisis, when local seed banks have secured access to seeds after major crop losses due to drought, flooding, or other emergencies—such as the earthquake in Nepal in 2015. Norway should support local seed systems through increased financing, capacity building and legal recognition of local seed banks. The Development Fund has supported 79 local seed banks in Ethiopia, Central America and Asia, and in this way has given seed security to more than 55,000 households, or about 400,000 people. Local conservation of biodiversity is a prerequisite for national and global conservation of plant genetic resources. This is food productions' most important safety net against climate crises, and a guarantee of future food security.



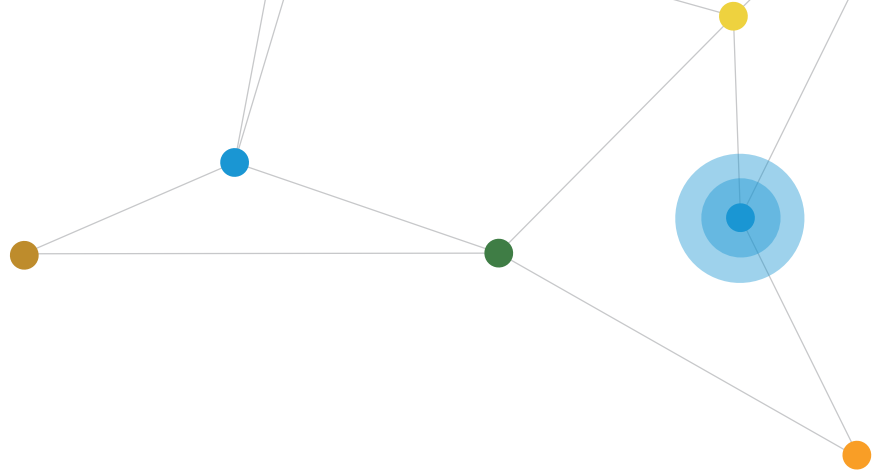




# **14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**

**Contributors: Friends of the Earth Norway, Greenpeace Norway,  
WWF Norway, The Norwegian Forum for Development and  
Environment**

# Targets



## 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

Minimise 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, recognising that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organisation fisheries subsidies negotiation

## 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 UNCLOS, 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





# What Norway should do at home and abroad

## Norway's international contributions

Norway should take the initiative to launch a major international programme to preserve marine life. The programme must have a broad regional scope, and put the natural resource—the living sea—at its centre. Strengthening local management expertise, support for regional cooperation on shared marine resources, and support to local poverty alleviation through sustainable fisheries must be central to such an international initiative. The newly established programme “Fish for development” should be strengthened and be part of such a global effort.

Norway has gradually gained a strong international position in efforts to combat fishery crime, and should work actively to get several important fishing nations to commit to, and support strengthened international efforts against fisheries crime.

Norway has advocated the harmonisation of catch certificates in world fisheries. This is important to combat illegal fishing, and must be supported financially in order for FAO to carry out this work.

## Implementing SDG 14 in Norway

### Recommendations 14.1:

- Knowledge, description, and hence handling of marine waste, is missing out in the Integrated Management (plan) of the Marine Environment of the Norwegian Sea from 2009. An update of this White paper must include objectives and measures to combat marine waste.
- A national prohibition on submarine deposits of tailings from mining must be adopted, and initiatives should be taken to include waste from land-based sources under the regulations of the London Convention.

### Recommendations 14.2:

- The holistic and ecosystem-based management plans for Norwegian waters must be updated every five years, and revised every ten years.
- An action plan to improve the situation for seabirds must be drawn up. This must include assessing which seabirds that should be priority species, and take the initiative to start work on a Nordic action plan.
- A target must be set that 15 percent of degraded ecosystems will be restored within 10 years, and a strategy on how this should be implemented must be drafted.
- Requirements must be introduced that all farmed salmon is double labelled by 2020, in such a way that escaped fish can easily be identified and traced to its origins.
- Ensure that the traffic light system to be implemented in the aquaculture industry is in line with the quality standard for wild salmon, so that the total environmental impact is crucial.

### Recommendations 14.3:

- More research on the impacts of ocean acidification on ecosystems in Norwegian waters is necessary in order to ensure good management in the future.

### Recommendations 14.4:

- The Norwegian government should actively utilise its role in UNODC, and seek to mobilise many important fishing nations to committing themselves to a strengthened international effort to combat illegal fisheries.
- The Norwegian government should ensure that destructive fishing practices in the Barents Sea that damage important benthic habitats will be phased out.

- The Norwegian government must draw up a comprehensive marine protection plan by the end of 2018, with the goal that 10 percent of the waters within the territorial must be protected, and that marine protected areas equivalent to 10 percent of the waters, are established outside the territorial border.
- Ensure that the 33 remaining areas of the current marine protection plan be protected as soon as possible, with a final deadline before the end of 2020.

- ### Recommendation 14.b:

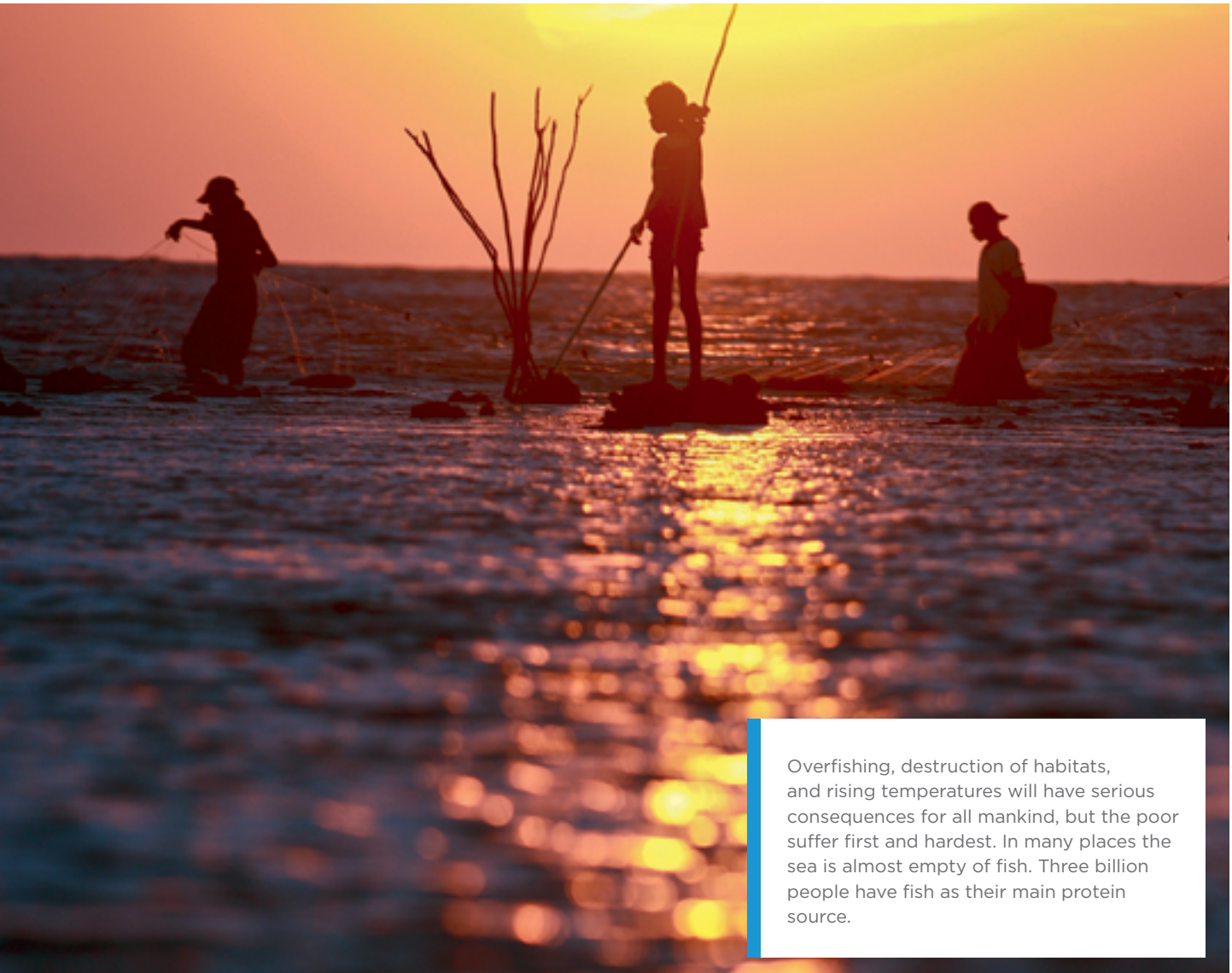
- 
- A full-page background image showing the silhouettes of three people fishing in the ocean at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water's surface. The people are standing in shallow water, and their fishing nets are visible. The overall mood is serene yet somber, reflecting the text about the impact of overfishing.
- Overfishing, destruction of habitats, and rising temperatures will have serious consequences for all mankind, but the poor suffer first and hardest. In many places the sea is almost empty of fish. Three billion people have fish as their main protein source.

Photo: UN Multimedia

## How do Norwegian organisations contribute to achieving the Goals?

Norwegian CSOs have acquired considerable expertise in marine management and marine conservation. This is reflected in the work both nationally and internationally. CSOs contribute with expertise and input, in the management of Norwegian waters. Information provision and making widely known the importance of good ocean management, is also an important part of the organisations' work. Several organisations

are also working to support the industry, the market, and consumers by promoting certification schemes like the ASC and MSC, and promoting dedicated sea food councils and guides. Many of the organisations work to raise these issues internationally, and contribute themselves through development assistance programmes in fisheries management.

### Examples from Norwegian CSOs:

- WWF is actively promoting more sustainable practices in Norwegian fisheries, including through the brand scheme Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), partly to reduce wasted bycatch in the shrimp fishery.
- WWF has prepared the seafood guide, which helps Norwegian consumers choosing fish from fisheries that are managed sustainably.
- WWF is actively contributing to more sustainable methods in the fish farming industry, including by putting in place more stringent rules for the certification scheme Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC).
- Friends of the Earth Norway is actively fighting against the dumping of mining waste in the Norwegian fjords, and promoting the international regulation of this environmentally harmful way of dealing with residual mining materials.
- Friends of the Earth Norway is combating plastic pollution of the sea, including through promoting everyday beach clearing and the avoidance of products containing micro plastics.
- Friends of the Earth Norway is promoting less environmentally harmful forms of aquaculture.
- Friends of the Earth Norway is working to protect Lofoten, Vesterålen, Senja, and other vulnerable waters against oil extraction.
- Greenpeace is working to ensure that Norway respects its international commitment to protect 10 percent of the waters we manage by 2020.
- Greenpeace is advocating that areas previously protected by polar ice are protected from human activity to avoid the climate change-driven melting of polar ice being viewed as a business opportunity.



**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**

Contributors: WWF Norway, Friends of the Earth Norway, Rainforest Foundation Norway, The Development Fund, The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment



# Targets



## 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

Ensure fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources

## 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

Mobilise and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems

## 15.b

Mobilise 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

# Background

Biodiversity is threatened. Globally, we are probably heading into the sixth mass extinction period on Earth. Unbroken natural ecosystems and species are disappearing at an alarmingly high rate, and simultaneously dramatic population decreases in many species have been documented over the past few decades. Land use changes are the greatest threat to biodiversity today, and the threat from climate change is rising. A robust and rich natural environment is an important form of insurance against a changing climate.

The UN SDGs strengthen and emphasise the biodiversity goals adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); the Aichi biodiversity targets. In December 2015, the Norwegian government submitted the White paper “Nature for life—Norwegian action plan for biodiversity” (Meld. St. 14), whose purpose is to present what Norway will do to halt the loss of biodiversity and to meet the Goals that Norway has committed to under the CBD.

## Assessment

Goal 15 incorporates a number of the Aichi biodiversity targets. To reach this SDG, there is a need for greater knowledge about biodiversity and to implement comprehensive measures. The biological map, a nationwide survey of habitats, must form the basis for this. In addition, it is necessary to document the current state of the main ecosystems, what condition they should be in, and what measures are needed in order to achieve that. Internationally, Norway should contribute to enhancing knowledge about nature, in partnership with the UN nature panel (The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services—IP-BES), and the global infrastructure for open sharing of value-neutral data on biodiversity, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).

Norway has committed itself to protecting and preserving 17% of natural environments on land, and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems. In total, approximately 17% of these environments have been

protected thus far, but the distribution of this protection is unbalanced. While 33 percent of Norwegian mountains are protected, other forms of natural environments and landscape types are poorly represented. To ensure a representative selection of Norwegian natural environments, cf. Aichi target 11, new protected areas must be established, both as national parks and as nature reserves. Coastal environments, productive lowland forests, and larger, contiguous areas not situated in the mountains are particularly poorly represented. Meanwhile, there is an urgent need to safeguard the areas that are already protected, through management where necessary in order to ensure conservation values. This includes the removal of harmful alien species. A plan is needed for the restoration of degraded ecosystems, both to achieve Aichi target 15 and in order to obtain adequate and representative protection of ecosystems. This plan must be combined with supplementary protection plans regarding the expansion and/or connection of existing

Biodiversity is threatened. Globally, we are probably heading into the sixth mass extinction period on Earth. Puffins in Norway are in dramatic decline.



To generate the necessary knowledge is not enough: it must also be applied. It is therefore essential to increase the knowledge and level of skill in local municipalities, which account for most of the current management of Norwegian natural environments.

development assistance, and has helped to halt the loss of biodiversity, particularly through its climate and forest initiative. Norwegian development policy must help to stem the loss of biodiversity, and to support sustainable management of ecosystems. Norway is in a good position to exploit the experience of the climate and forest initiative to launch similar programmes for other habitats.



# What should Norway do at home and abroad?

## Recommendations 15.1

- Initiate efforts to create environmental quality standards for ecosystems by 2020, and submit an environmental quality standard for marshlands by the end of 2017.
- Set a target that 15% of the degraded ecosystems will be restored within 10 years, and create a strategy for implementation.
- Set a goal to strictly protect 10% of productive forests, and create a strategy for implementation.
- Strengthen standardised monitoring of natural environments, including the prioritised species and habitats.
- Transfer the responsibility for the Nature Index from the Environment Agency to the Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre (Artsdatabanken), and give the Biodiversity Information Centre a mandate to develop the Nature Index so that knowledge about endangered species and habitats, alien species with high ecological risk, and the status of stocks are reflected in the Nature Index indicators.
- Extend the current system of selected cultural landscapes from 22 to 100 sites by 2025.
- Develop an environmental quality standard for pollinating insects.
- Implement those areas that remain from the National Park Plan of 1992, adopt positive protection decisions relating to the Jomfruland, Raet and Lofotodden national parks, and start the formal protection process for creating national parks in Østmarka and Preikestolen.
- Prepare a conservation plan for coastal river ecosystems.
- Introduce a national goal regarding mines without waste, and a system of green fees and incentives, with the aim of reducing and eventually eliminating

the use of external landfills of residual materials from mining.

## Recommendations 15.2

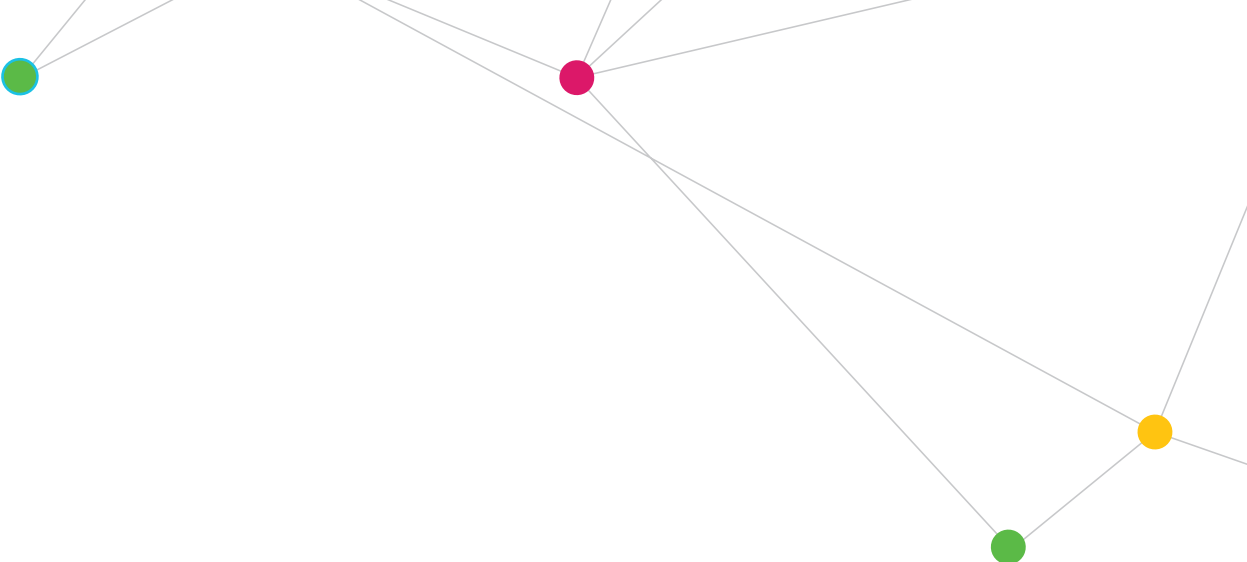
- Prohibit logging in forests more than 160 years old, which account for only 2.4% of productive forests in Norway.
- Remove environmentally hostile subsidies, like the support to felling on steep slopes, logging roads, and the fertilisation of forest.
- Reinstate INON (Intervention Free Areas in Norway) as management concept, and reintroduce the ban on subsidising logging roads into wilderness areas.
- Continue to prioritise the international climate and forest initiative.
- Take the initiative to ensure that Norwegian enterprises with foreign investments, especially in sectors where there is a risk of negative effects on vulnerable ecosystems, must report on how they safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services in their business.

## Recommendation 15.3

- Place great importance on climate change adaptation in its efforts to counteract the effects of climate change. Contribute significantly to climate adaptation in the Sahel, Ethiopia and other vulnerable countries and areas, and contribute to enhanced food security through support for climate-smart agriculture, irrigation, and tree planting.

## Recommendation 15.4

- Good knowledge systems are needed in order to monitor the development of harvestable species



and to take action when needed. The Norwegian government must therefore establish environmental quality standards for huntable species in the mountains, such as caribou, hare, grouse, and ptarmigan.

### Recommendations 15.5

- Draft a national plan to increase the number of priority species and selected habitats in Norway.
- Develop an action plan for seabirds.
- Initiate a new research programme that looks at ecosystem functions, ecosystem services, and the relationships between them, including biodiversity values, status, and trends.
- Making sure that the blacklist of invasive alien species and the red lists of threatened species and habitats are updated regularly, and at least every five years.
- Ensure that Norwegian foreign investments (particularly through GPF), trade and import policies, and public procurement does not contribute to the destruction of fragile ecosystems and natural areas or increase the pressure on biodiversity outside Norwegian territory.

### Recommendations 15.6

- Norway must continue working to achieve the objectives of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. Norway should increase support for in-situ measures for the preservation and development of the diversity of species. Norway should be an international driving force for long-term and predictable funding of the Treaty's benefit-sharing fund, and promote the Norwegian model for contributions from the seed industry. Norway should also align the support for the Global Crop Diversity

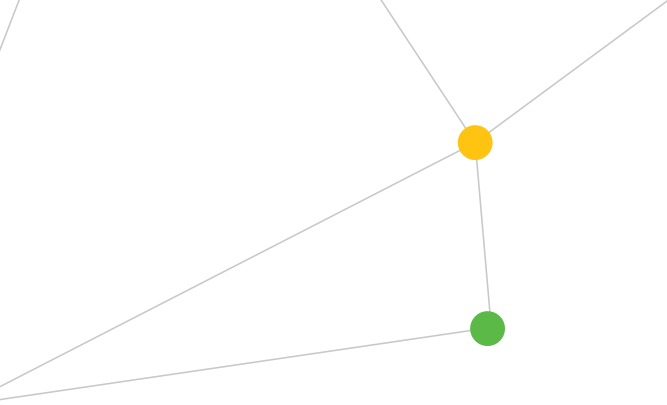
Trust in such a way that it benefits local food production and small farmers to a larger degree, and strengthens the link between local seed systems, ex-situ conservation in national and international gene banks.

- Norway should increase its financial support for public plant breeding, with special focus on participatory plant breeding at the international level through the CGIAR system, in Norway and in developing countries.
- Norway should not approve genetically modified organisms (GMOs) that are not conducive to sustainable development, as described in the Norwegian Gene Technology Act.
- Norway should actively promote the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in order to protect biodiversity against the threats arising from the use of GMOs.

### Recommendations 15.7

- The Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime (ØKOKRIM) must receive an increased capacity to detect and combat severe environmental crime in Norway, especially with respect to endangered species.
- Norway should strengthen international efforts to combat natural and environmental crime. Efforts must target both the prevention of environmental crime through the local management of natural resources, Government's fight against environmental crime, as well as reducing demand and halting the illegal trade in endangered species.





### Recommendations 15.8

- The Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime (ØKOKRIM) must receive an increased capacity to detect and combat severe environmental crime in Norway, especially with respect to endangered species.
- Norway should strengthen international efforts to combat natural and environmental crime. Efforts must target both the prevention of environmental crime through the local management of natural resources, Government's fight against environmental crime, as well as reducing demand and halting the illegal trade in endangered species.

### Recommendations 15.8

- Appropriations to remove invasive alien species from protected areas must be increased sharply.
- No subsidies to invasive alien species.
- The list of prohibited species under the regulations regarding alien organisms must be expanded, based on scientific risk assessments. Sitka spruce, lutz spruce, sycamore and pine shrub are among the species that must be banned.
- Action plans for the removal of the most harmful alien species need to be developed, and it must be a goal to implement national control measures to limit their spread.

### Recommendations 15.9

- Finalise a biological basic map for Norway, including habitats, species, and landscapes, by the end of 2025.
- Appoint a committee to study how to set up a governmental natural environment and environmental appeal board in line with the Aarhus Convention.
- In connection with the White paper on municipality reform, submit a plan to boost the environmental competence and capacity of municipalities.

- Ensure that the concern for sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems is integrated into the relevant development policies and development assistance strategies.

### Recommendations 15.a

- Create a development assistance programme to boost international knowledge about natural environments. The programme should help to enable developing countries to achieve the SDGs and Aichi biodiversity targets, and must be coordinated with the work of the IPBES and GBIF.
- Increase development assistance for measures regarding the maintenance of ecosystem services and the sustainable management of forests, soil, and freshwater.

### Recommendations 15.b

- Increase the appropriation to the Norwegian Climate and Forest Initiative, thereby strengthening the preservation of the rain forest, and promote sustainable management of forests in developing countries.
- Strengthen work on hedging mechanisms on how to include and protect local communities and indigenous peoples' rights in all agreements under the Norwegian Climate and Forest Initiative.

### Recommendations 15c

- Increase funding to combat nature crimes through international organisations, and to build skills and strengthen the Norwegian voice in the fight against the illegal trade in plant and animal species.

The Norwegian government helps conserve rainforests, often described as the Earth's lungs. However, through investments, Norway also destroys rainforests. Policy coherence is needed, organizations say.



## How do Norwegian organisations contribute to achieving the Goals?

Norwegian CSOs are directly engaged in the achievement of the SDG 15 and the Aichi biodiversity targets, and they supplement the Government's efforts with their expertise, international and national networks, and local involvement in the field.

Many Norwegian CSOs work internationally to conserve and make sustainable use of important ecosystems such as tropical forests, wetlands and mangrove forests, including endangered species. For example, the Rainforest Foundation Norway is supporting local organisations in 12 rainforest countries in their efforts toward sustainable management of forests and biodiversity, and is in dialogue with companies and decision makers both in Norway and internationally to promote rights-based forest conservation. The Development Fund promotes and supports participatory plant breeding, where scientists and farmers together develop varieties that are adapted to local climatic conditions, and is connected to

local seed banks where farmers themselves are managers.

In Norway, CSOs provide increased knowledge and create awareness about nature and strengthen the management of biodiversity. For example, Friends of the Earth Norway, WWF Norway and Sabima are actively working to create more and larger protected areas (with an additional focus on forest protection), less pollution, and to increase efforts to fight environmental crime, increase nature mapping, appoint new priority species and selected habitats, prevent the degradation of significant natural environments, remove harmful subsidies, prohibit and eradicate alien species, and to limit environmentally harmful industrial development as much as possible. WWF Norway and Sabima are members of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and are working to establish a Norwegian standard. The absence of a Norwegian standard is a major shortcoming of current forestry.



**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**

Contributors: Norwegian People's Aid, Save the Children Norway, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Norway (IKFF), International Peace Bureau Norway, The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment.

# Targets

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## 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 organised 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

## 16.10

Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

## 16.a

Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime

## 16.b

Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development



# Introduction

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War, violence, injustice, marginalisation and the abuse of power destroy societies and hinder sustainable development. Weak institutions and lack of transparency often make it difficult to stop crime, corruption, and tax evasion that drain both rich and poor countries of billions that could have funded public services such as health, education, water, and infrastructure. Similarly, confidence, security, and sustainable development have far better conditions for success in a peaceful, fair, open, and inclusive society with well-functioning institutions, respect for human rights, space for critical voices, and access to information.

In minutes, a bullet or bomb can tear down what might take years to rebuild, be it a human life, buildings or trust. Armed violence, irresponsible arms trade and excessive military spending undermine efforts to

achieve the SDGs. Many countries spend huge sums on military rearmament, while people's basic needs are not being met. As UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has repeatedly reminded the international community: "The world is overarmed, and peace is underfunded".

Nuclear weapons threaten life on Earth. New threats and dilemmas under international law are arising, with new technologies like drones and, not least, fully autonomous weapons: killer robots. Still, handguns are the weapons of mass destruction of the poor. Commitment to peace, human rights, prevention, and better arms control is essential for development.

Reaching SDG 16 is essential for reaching the other SDGs, and instrumental in assessing whether they have been reached.







# Recommendations

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## Norway shall be a driving force for human rights for all

Norway shall continue to be a prime mover for all human rights for all, both at home and abroad. Norway shall continue to have good public institutions, rule of law, democracy, good governance and stability, and ensure non-discrimination and space for critical voices, as well as universal access to public information both nationally and internationally.

## Norway shall protect vulnerable groups and reduce violence

Although human rights have a strong foundation in Norway, Norway also has challenges. Norway must ensure that all groups in society are able to uphold their rights, including the poor, people living with disabilities, refugees, asylum seekers, and immigrants. Norway must also strengthen efforts to combat violence, abuse, and exploitation, particularly regarding children and women. No one shall be left behind.

## Reduce irresponsible and illicit arms trade at home and abroad

The global arms trade is characterised by corruption and secrecy, contributing to suffering and poverty. Norway has been criticised after a number of contentious sales of Norwegian military materiel, including to Saudi Arabia. Better and stricter control of, and openness around, the

arms trade at both the national and international level will help to increase security. Norway and other countries should stop all exports of military equipment to repressive regimes, introduce end user declarations for sale to all countries, and strengthen openness around the assessments that underlie weapons transactions and the issuance of licenses. All countries should report publicly and annually on all arms trade, and strengthen democratic control and ensure transparency. Norway should legislate the Arms Trade Treaty's prohibitions (Article 6 and 7) in its export control law, not just include it in its guidelines.

## Reduce illicit financial flows and strengthen financial openness at home and abroad

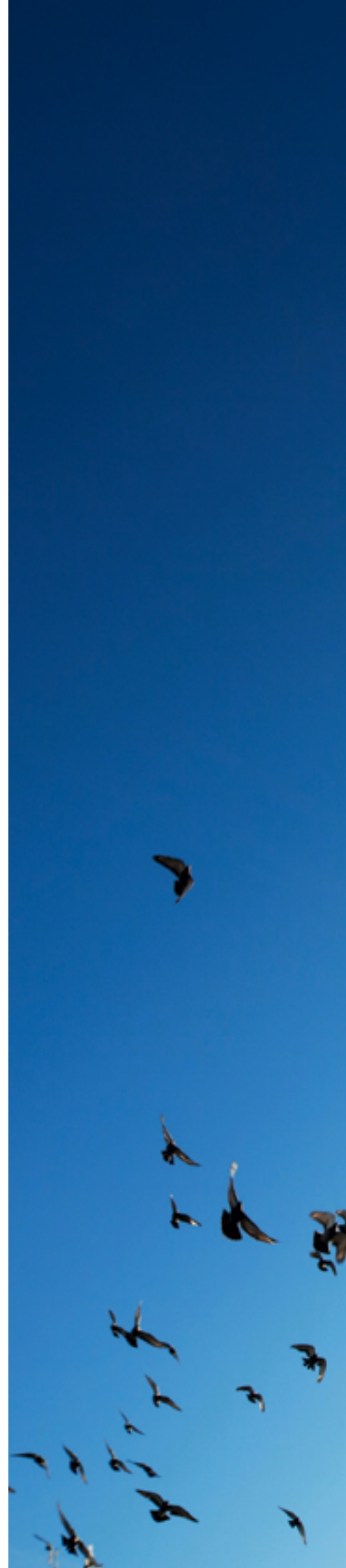
Norway should increase efforts to combat corruption, illicit financial flows, and tax dodging in order to finance sustainable development. Norwegian operations—including the Pension Fund, Norfund and state-owned companies—should not use tax havens. Three tools Norway should prioritise are improved and publicly available country-by-country reporting that includes reporting of tax havens, a public ownership register showing the beneficial owners behind a company, and the establishment of an intergovernmental tax agency for open and inclusive global tax cooperation, so that the poor countries that are hardest hit also have a seat at the table.

## Ensure inclusive and participatory decision-making and strengthen civil society

Free elections, power-sharing, and a free and viable civil society are essential for democracy and the implementation of the SDGs. Norway should continue to support and protect civil society, both nationally and internationally, including independent organisations and watchdogs that promote human rights, humanitarian issues, peace, financial transparency, and sustainable development. Support for local civil society in the Global South often helps to ensure more democratic decision-making processes and a better distribution of resources. Civil society must be heard and included in a meaningful way, including in the implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2030.

## Prevent and combat violence and terrorism, in line with human rights

Many countries are struggling to combat conflict, terrorism, and violent extremism while preserving the rule of law, freedom, and human rights. In many cases, military efforts lead to further radicalisation. In other areas, control and surveillance are increased at the expense of freedom and rights. Various radicals and extremists groups are often engaged in a mutually-reinforcing negative feedback loop, often fed by their hatred of each other. Preventive work that addresses the underlying causes of violence, war, terrorism, and extremism must be prioritised. Creating jobs and opportunities for young people in fragile states and ensuring good distribution and management of natural resources are effective ways to combat poverty and conflict. Norway and other countries must ensure that the fight against violent extremism and terrorism does not take place at the expense of human rights.



## Examples of how CSOs contribute to SDG 16

**1. Norwegian People's Aid supports the project "The Public Policy Information, Monitoring and Advocacy" in Rwanda.** The network brings together 13 local partners in a unique partnership to raise awareness among citizens about basic principles of law, and to provide them with the skills they need to get involved and to voice their views and interests to policy makers and service providers. PPIMA organises debates and dialogues with citizens and decision-makers about current topics related to policies, laws and programmes.

**2. The Norwegian Forum for Development (ForUM) and Environment advocates better control and transparency in the arms trade**

Specific proposals for more transparency and control around the Norwegian and international arms trade have been put forward for years by ForUM and other CSOs, both at home

and abroad. ForUM is a board member of the global CSO alliance Control Arms, which was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for advocating for a strong Arms Trade Treaty to save lives and reduce the suffering associated with irresponsible arms trade. When Control Arms suggested such a binding treaty in 2003, most people dismissed the idea as unrealistic. On Christmas Eve in 2014 however, the UN agreement came into force. ForUM contributed through providing input for the Parliament hearings and the UN negotiations, and through publications, media coverage, mobilization. Through Control Arms, ForUM also supported capacity building and communication materials in multiple languages, and helped make survivors of gun violence from the Global South heard by decision makers and the UN through travel support and joint events.



Irresponsible arms trade fuels poverty, abuse and corruption. In 2013, the UN adopted an Arms Trade Treaty. The picture shows champions for a lifesaving global treaty: Norway (with poster) surrounded by the Control Arms Coalition including ForUM (with flag).



# **17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development**

**Contributors: Save the Children Norway, Changemaker,  
The Norwegian ForUM for Development and Environment.**

# Targets



## Finance

### 17.1

Strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, 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 achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of 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

Mobilise 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 operationalise the technology bank and science, technology, and innovation capacity-building mechanisms 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 Organisation, 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

Realise timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organisation 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 mobilise 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 significantly increase 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

**The SDGs shall function as a common, global direction and priority efforts over the next 15 years. To achieve the ambitious SDGs, people must join hands across disciplines and sectors. No one can achieve the goals by themselves.**



# Recommendations

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## Finance:

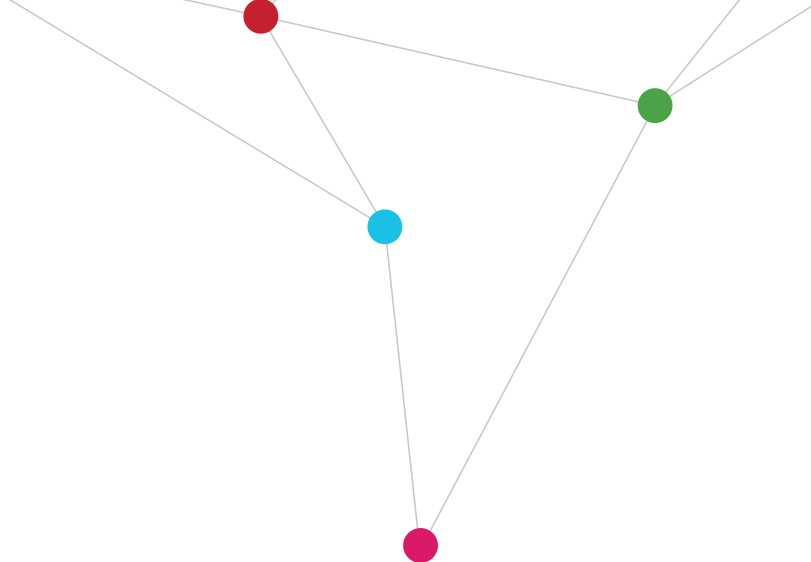
(see also part 1.3)

- As a major economic power, Norway has an unprecedented opportunity to reach the SDGs, and to contribute to reaching them globally. In order to do so, it is important to ensure 1% long-term official development assistance in fresh funds, including support for CSOs who are often closer to the problems and the vulnerable groups.
- The private sector can also contribute to sustainable development through, inter alia, job creation and economic growth, but can also undermine sustainable development and human rights by harming people and the environment. Both trade and investment must be responsible, in line with human rights, the Earth's carrying capacity, and global standards.
- There is a need for an independent debt resolution mechanism that holds both lenders and borrowers to account.
- To prevent rich and poor countries from being drained of billions hidden away in tax havens, we must ensure financial transparency. At the national level, extensive and publicly available

country-by-country reporting, including tax havens, and a publicly available ownership register showing beneficial owners should be established, and we must ensure that Norwegian business does not undermine efforts to combat tax havens. Norway must also promote better and more inclusive and democratic cooperation on tax issues internationally by providing increased political and financial support for this work at the UN.

## Trade:

- We need a rule-based, open and non-discriminatory multilateral trade system under WTO, where poor countries are also able to be heard. Norway currently participates in bilateral and multilateral trade agreements outside the WTO, and must strongly consider poor countries' interests in these agreements ensure that their policy space is preserved.
- To ensure that trade does not undermine the SDGs, human rights and environment impact assessments should be conducted and be used to provide guidance to any trade and investment agreement.



### Systemic issues:

- The global challenges are intertwined. Therefore, the approaches must be integrated, comprehensive, interdisciplinary, and cross-sectoral. Norway's and other countries' policies must be coherent and pull in the same direction for sustainable development, not giving with one hand and taking away with the other, which would risk undermining Norwegian policy in a worst-case scenario.
- One way to ensure coherence may be for the Office of the Prime Minister to oversee the process of ensuring that the SDGs are met, and that all relevant ministries and agencies are involved.

### Technology is crucial for implementing Agenda 2030:

- Developing countries and middle-income countries must be guaranteed fair access to technology that is environmentally beneficial, and patent rights should be removed for technologies that are essential for achieving the Goals. Norway should take an active part in the newly established "Multi-stakeholder Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM)", and contribute to the effective enforcement of the "Precautionary Principle". Norway should also work to ensure that traditional knowledge is being recognised, preserved, and used. Norway should maintain its efforts to keep the moratorium on large-scale geo-engineering.

### Disaggregated quality data must be provided:

- Many countries lack reliable data, especially for marginalised groups, are reluctant to make data and statistics available, or fail to provide space for critical voices that could correct and supplement public information. Without this, it is difficult to verify whether the Goals can be reached. Disaggregated quality data must be made available. Statistical capacity should be built, especially in developing countries.

### Partnership:

- To reach the SDGs, cooperation is needed—across public and private sectors, civil society, academia, the UN, and others. Governments should facilitate this type of open and inclusive cooperation.

### Monitoring and implementation of the Goals

- By 2016, Norway and other countries should put forward a strategy and a plan for how to implement the SDGs, secure financing, and monitor this nationally and internationally, including by collaborating with CSOs and other relevant sectors.
- In order to assess Norway's and other countries' progress in relation to the SDGs, a starting point is needed. The government must therefore ensure that they establish such a baseline.
- We encourage Norway and other countries to report annually on progress and on what is being done to achieve the Goals, both nationally and through foreign, environmental and industrial policy, and make these reports publicly available.



Norwegian civil society is known as vibrant and has a strong voice. The ForUM for Development and Environment co-ordinated the inputs of many Norwegian civil society organizations in the lead-up to the 2030 Agenda, and now actively advocates for SDG implementation.



Helen Clark, Director, UNDP



## How CSOs are contributing:

CSOs are often closer to vulnerable groups and problems, and can contribute as initiators, watchdogs, and implementing partners. ForUM, together with organisations at home and abroad, continues to provide interdisciplinary input to the Norwegian government, develop proposals for how Norwegian policy can be more coherent and therefore more effective, and disseminate information about SDGs. Along with the research institutes Fafo and CICERO, this year ForUM has created a Sustainability Forum to strengthen knowledge, debate and cooperation on the SDGs.

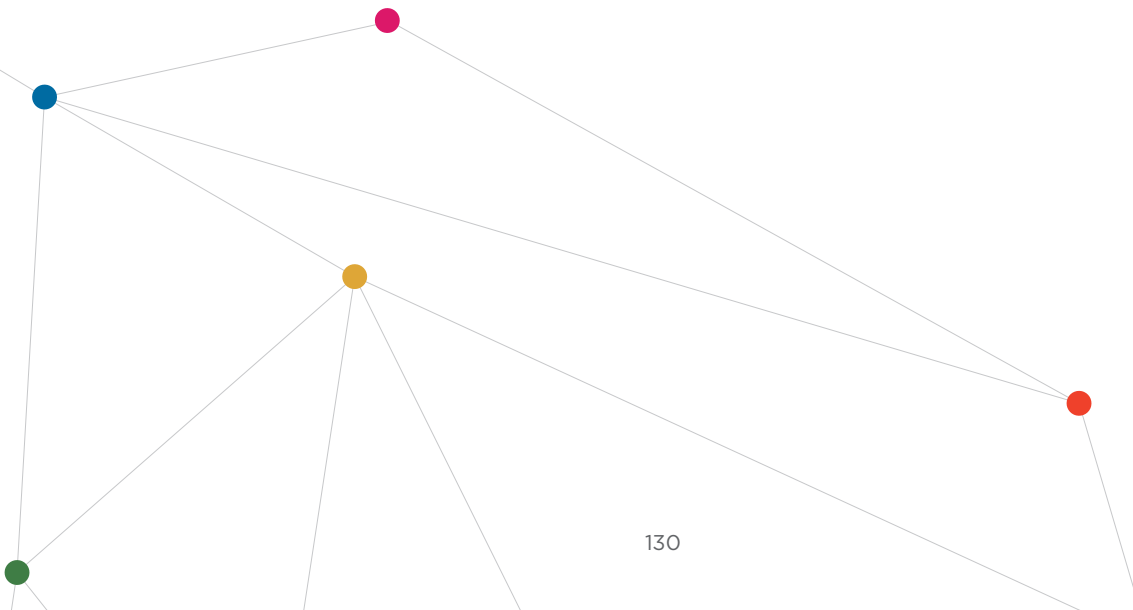


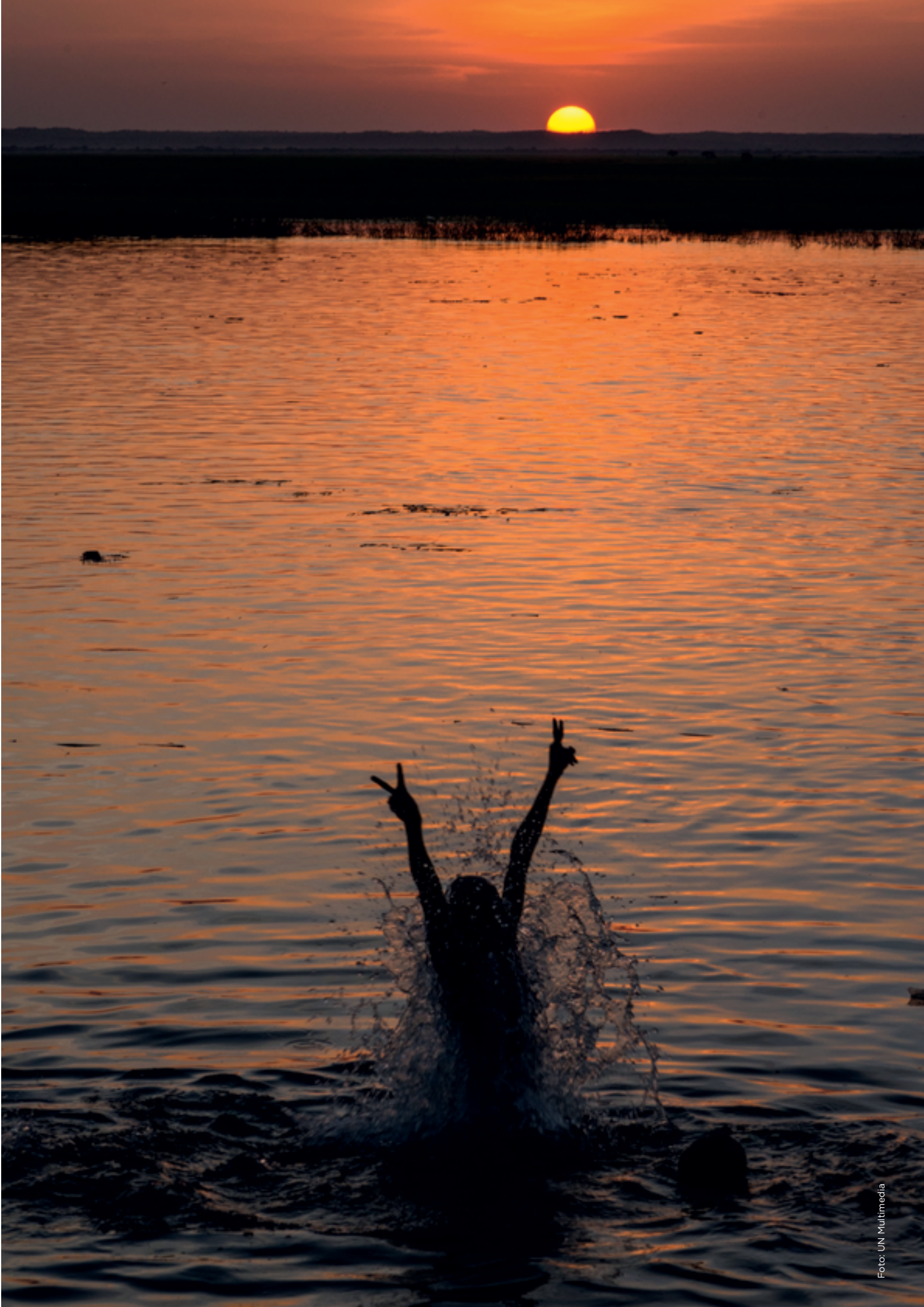




**Ours is the first generation that  
can end poverty, and the last  
that can take steps to avoid the  
worst impacts of climate change**

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon





# **“Ours is the first generation that can end poverty, and the last that can take steps to avoid the worst impacts of climate change”**

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UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon

In 2015, the UN adopted the 2030 Agenda —an ambitious plan of action with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development (ForUM), a network of 50 Norwegian organisations, has coordinated the drafting of these interdisciplinary recommendations for the Norwegian government on how the 17 SDGs can be reached in and by Norway before 2030.

To end poverty (Goal 1), every man, woman and child needs have food security and improved nutrition (Goal 2), clean water and safe sanitation (Goal 6), a safe and healthy living environment (Goal 11), good health (Goal 3) and quality education (Goal 4). Access to clean energy (Goal 7) and infrastructure, industrialisation and innovation (Goal 9), and decent work (Goal 8) are necessary to reduce inequality (Goal 10)—including gender inequality (Goal 5)—to create inclusive green growth (Goal 8), and to ensure that well-being for all humans is in harmony with nature. To protect life both on land (Goal 15) and in the water (Goal 14), and to combat dangerous levels of climate change (Goal 13), we must produce and consume sustainably (Goal 12). Furthermore, to achieve these goals in a peaceful and just society (Goal 16), broad cooperation, coherence and good financing are needed (Goal 17). We have no planet B.