



UNIC Library Newsletter - July 2012

New websites within the UN system

UN in General

The Future We Want: Outcome document adopted at Rio+20

English & French: <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/thefuturewewant.html>

DPI-NGO Relations Section – new website

<http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/>

The new site is more user-friendly and aims to attract a more globally diverse clientele. We hope that UNICS will encourage NGOs in their respective countries to explore the new website and to take advantage of all the opportunities for networking and supporting partnerships it will offer as well as information on NGO weekly Thursday Briefings, its association and disassociation processes, communication workshops and orientation programmes, as well as the premier NGO event, the annual UNDPI/NGO Conference.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) - newly revamped bilingual website

<http://new.uneca.org/>

The launch of the new website, which offers quick and easy access to essential information on UNECA and its programmes, is part of the organization's ongoing efforts to enhance the quality and availability of information to audience worldwide. The website harbours over 10,000 pages divided into seven sections: Home; About ECA; Programmes; Sub-regional Offices; Publications; Meetings and Events; and Press Releases. Each page provides detailed information on all seven aspects of the organization's functioning. New enhancements to the website include: an improved navigation, cleaner user interface, integration of RSS feeds, email alerts, social networking page with links to online presence, and integration of advanced multimedia features.

Peace and Security

UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), New York, 2 to 27 July 2012

<http://www.un.org/disarmament/ATT/>

The first-ever UN Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty, starting on July 2, aims to agree on standards to regulate the international arms trade, making it harder for weapons to be diverted to conflict zones, illegal market and into the hands of terrorists, warlords, drug traffickers and criminal cartels. It is seen as the most important initiative ever regarding conventional arms regulation within the United Nations. A robust arms trade treaty can make a difference for millions of people confronted with insecurity, deprivation and fear.

United Nations Peacekeeping Operations – Fact Sheet: 30 June 2012

(DPI/1634/Rev.134, July 2012)

English: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/resources/statistics/factsheet.shtml>

French: <http://www.un.org/fr/peacekeeping/resources/statistics/factsheet.shtml>

United Nations Political and Peacebuilding Missions – Fact Sheet: 30 June 2012

(DPI/2166/Rev.108, July 2012)

English: <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/documents/ppbm.pdf>

French: <http://www.un.org/fr/peacekeeping/documents/ppff.pdf>

Economic & Social Development

Assessing Progress in Africa Towards the Millennium Development Goals: MDG Report 2012 (AUC / UNECA / AfDB / UNDP-RBA)

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/mdg-reports/africa-collection/>

Sub-Saharan Africa must provide universal access to decent jobs and social services if it is to achieve decisive development progress, according to a newly released report on the continent's progress on global anti-poverty goals. The report is published annually by the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). This year the report shows that progress has been made in primary school enrolment, gender parity in primary school enrolment, the proportion of seats held by women in national parliament and HIV and AIDS prevalence rates. In spite of this progress, Africa still faces the challenges of addressing pervasive income inequalities, creating decent jobs, access to health and sanitation services.

Big Data for Development: Challenges & Opportunities (UN Global Pulse)

<http://www.unglobalpulse.org/sites/default/files/BigDataforDevelopment-UNGlobalPulseJune2012.pdf>

Since the turn of the century, innovations in technology and greater affordability of digital devices have presided over the "Industrial Revolution of Data," characterised by an explosion in the quantity and diversity of real-time digital data resulting from the ever-increasing role of technology in our lives. This paper outlines the opportunities and challenges, which have guided the UN Global Pulse initiative since its inception in 2009.

Climate change vulnerability and the identification of least developed countries (CDP Background Paper No. 15)

http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_background_papers/bp2012_15.pdf

This paper reviews the role of climate change vulnerability in identifying least developed countries (LDCs), and proposes some refinements in the LDC criteria to better capture vulnerabilities from natural disasters and in coastal areas.

Global Economic Prospects: Managing growth in a volatile world (World Bank)

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROSPECTS/Resources/334934-1322593305595/8287139-1339427993716/GEPJune2012_Full_Report.pdf

Economic developments of the past year have been volatile, punctuated by natural disasters, large swings in investor sentiment, and periods of relative calm and improving prospects. Output in the second half of 2011, was particularly weak, buffeted by flooding in Thailand, the delayed impact of earlier policy tightening and a resurgence of financial market and investor jitters.

The Millennium Development Goals Report 2012

English - Report: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2012/English2012.pdf>

French - Report: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2012/French2012.pdf>

This year's report highlights several milestones. The target of reducing extreme poverty by half has been reached five years ahead of the 2015 deadline, as has the target of halving the proportion of people who lack dependable access to improved sources of drinking water. Conditions for more than 200 million people living in slums have been ameliorated—double the 2020 target. Primary school enrolment of girls equalled that of boys, and we have seen accelerating progress in reducing child and maternal mortality

Together we will end AIDS (UNAIDS)

<http://www.unaids.org/en/resources/campaigns/togetherwewillendaids/>

Ahead of the 19th International AIDS Conference that will take place in Washington D.C. from 22-27 July 2012, UNAIDS has launched a new report containing the latest data on numbers of new HIV infections, numbers of people receiving antiretroviral treatment, AIDS-related deaths

and HIV among children. The report also gives an overview of international and domestic HIV investments and the need for greater value for money and sustainability.

United Nations Social Development Network (UNSDN)

<http://unsdn.org/>

This new web portal was launched by the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSPA/DESA) as a pilot project, aiming to share knowledge and good practices among social development professionals worldwide on ageing, civil society, cooperatives, disability, employment, family, indigenous peoples, poverty, social integration, technology and youth.

World Drug Report 2012 (UNODC)

Report in English, Executive Summary in English, French & Spanish:

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/WDR-2012.html>

Illicit drug markets have global dimensions and require coordinated responses on a comparable scale. In this context, the World Drug Report aims to improve understanding of the illicit drug problem and contribute to more international cooperation for countering it. This year's edition begins with an overview of recent trends and the current situation in terms of production, trafficking and consumption and the consequences of illicit drug use in terms of treatment, drug-related diseases and drug-related deaths. The second chapter presents a long-term perspective: it looks at the main characteristics of the contemporary drug problem, the ways it has changed over the last few decades, the driving factors that shaped this evolution, and the directions it is likely to take in the future.

World Economic and Social Survey 2012: In Search of New Development Finance (DESA)

Overview in English, French & Spanish, Report in English:

<http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wess/index.shtml>

In its annual report on global development the UN says that in the midst of difficult financial times many donor countries have cut back on development assistance. In 2011, for the first time in many years, aid flows declined in real terms. The United Nations is proposing an international tax, combined with other innovative financing mechanisms, to raise more than \$400 billion annually for development and global challenges such as fighting climate change.

Human Rights

Strengthening the United Nations human rights treaty body system: A report by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights - Navanethem Pillay, June 2012 (OHCHR)

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/HRTD/docs/HCREportTBStrengthening.pdf>

The UN human rights treaty body system is one of the greatest achievements in the history of the global struggle for human rights. Using a growing set of tools, this system provides authoritative guidance on human rights standards, advises on how treaties apply in specific cases, and informs States parties of what they must do to ensure that all people enjoy their human rights.

International Law

Treaty Event: "Strengthening the Rule of Law " (24-26 September & 1-2 October)

English: http://treaties.un.org/Pages/TreatyEvents.aspx?path=treaty=Treaty/Focus/Page1_en.xml

French: http://treaties.un.org/Pages/TreatyEvents.aspx?path=treaty=Treaty/Focus/Page1_fr.xml

This year's Treaty Event, on the theme of "Strengthening the Rule of Law," provides an opportunity for Member States to sign, ratify or accede to multilateral treaties deposited with the UN Secretary-General. Since 2000, the annual event has proven to be an effective means

for promoting wider participation of States in the multilateral treaty framework and thereby fostering the rule of law at the international level.

New information material

Nelson Mandela International Day – 18 July

Poster: Nelson Mandela International Day – 18 July: "For freedom, justice and democracy".

Online version: <http://www.un.org/en/events/mandeladay/resources.shtml>

UN Chronicle. Volume XLIX, Number 1 & 2, 2012. 71 p.

"The future we want?"

Online version: <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/chronicle/home/archive/issues2012/thefuturewewant>

NEW TITLES added to the library collection in July

I. South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)/ GEF/UNEP/UNDP/World Bank

Biodiversity for Development: South Africa's landscape approach to conserving biodiversity and promoting ecosystem resilience. SANBI, 2010. 171 P. ISBN: 978-1-919976-59-4

II. Human Rights (including Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights - OHCHR)

The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide.

United Nations. New York and Geneva. 2012. iv, 92 p. (HR/PUB/12/2)

Online version: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR.PUB.12.2_En.pdf

III. United Nations for Population FUND (UNFPA).

2011 Annual report: Delivering results in a World of 7 Billion.

UNFPA. New York. 2012. 40 p. ISBN 978 1 61800 004 0.

Online version:

http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2012/16434%20UNFPA%20AR_FINAL_Ev11.pdf

NOTE: Please send your questions and feedback to the UNIC Library at hope.kabamba@unic.org