

Side event at the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: lessons learned for supporting a human rights-based approach to the SDGs

Thursday 18th April 14.30 – 16.00

Toubkal Room, Palais des Congrès de la Palmeraie de Marrakech, Morocco

Objective

The objective of the side event is to highlight key lessons and experiences of how human rights can be integrated in practice in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

In particular, the event will focus on the following aspects of human rights-SDG implementation:

- How can the recommendations of international and regional human rights bodies be used to guide SDG implementation? ***Cross-cutting, leave no-one behind, all goals under examination.***
- What are the barriers to equality and inclusive development faced in the SDG and Agenda 2063 context and how can a human rights-based approach support efforts towards inclusive development? ***Cross-cutting, leave no-one behind, Goals 4, 8 and 10.***
- How are fundamental rights and freedoms and strong institutions integral to SDG implementation as a whole? How can the SDGs enable civic space and access to justice? ***Goal 16, cross-cutting.***
- How can a human rights-based approach to data support SDG implementation and what experiences can be built on in this regard? ***Cross-cutting, leave no one behind, Goal 10.***

The event will bring together representatives of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, states, national human rights institutions and civil society to **share concrete experiences, lessons learned and solutions** in relation to the above objectives and **share practical tools and methods** to be used in furthering a human rights-based approach at the national level.

Format of the event

The event will be interactive. It will begin with an interactive quiz to reveal the audience's level of knowledge of a human rights-based approach. This will be followed by presentations from a panel of experts, and a facilitated discussion with the audience. Finally, a presentation of DIHR and OHCHR tools for integrating SDGs and human rights will be made.

Speakers

Moderator:

Commissioner Joseph Whittal, Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, Ghana; Chair, NANHRI Working Group on SDGs and Agenda 2063 and Human Rights

- Mr. Adam Abdelmoula, Director, Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division, OHCHR.
- Mr. Vincent Operemo, Senior Planner for Strategic Planning, National Planning Authority, Uganda
- Ms. Francesca Thornberry, Strategic Adviser on Human Rights and Sustainable Development, Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Ms Hellen Apila, Femnet and Representative of Women's Major Group.
- Mr. Koome Miriti, SDG Focal Point, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR)