**HRC - Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law**

22-23 Nov. 2018, Geneva

**UNDP support to parliaments on SDGs and human rights**

* UNDP is one of the **world’s largest global provider of parliamentary support** working with more than 70 parliaments. Equal to about 1 in 3 parliaments worldwide. Efforts focus on enhancing the capacities of parliaments to help implement the 2030 Agenda.
* The parliamentary development work of UNDP has 3 main targets:
  1. Support to more effective, responsive, inclusive law-making, oversight, budgeting and representation;
  2. Support parliaments as drivers of accountable human rights-based SDG implementation and monitoring;
  3. Support inclusion and political participation and leadership of women, youth and under-represented groups.
* As representatives of the people, **parliaments can help protect and expand civic space** and engage people in public affairs, including to support implementation and monitoring progress of the SDGs.
* Parliaments can play a crucial role in achieving the SDGs, promoting human rights and holding governments accountable. It is through the national legislatures that the global goals are going to be transformed into concrete plans and policies. And it is through the people’s representatives that the SDGs get local legitimacy and engagement.
* UNDP supports parliaments to become an effective coequal branch of government and to be driving forces in SDG implementation and human rights compliance. Concrete examples can be found across the world:
  + In **Bangladesh**, UNDP has facilitated workshops for parliamentarians on how to monitor and implement human rights-based SDGs in the local context. The workshop provided both the information and the forum for discussion as requested by the MPs. But it also laid the groundwork for them to continue the work individually, in the parliamentary committees and through collaboration.
  + In **Samoa**, UNDP working with several partners supported the first seminar bringing MPs together across party lines and providing them with tools on how to achieve human rights-based SDGs. Because of the seminar and the ongoing work in Samoa the parliamentarian committees have become more efficient in their legislative and oversight functions.
  + In the **Central African Republic** andin **Moldova**, working with UN Women and the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, UNDP has engaged the National Assembly to assist in the adoption of gender equality laws.
  + In **Afghanistan**, UNDP has supported development of standard operating procedures of parliamentary committees on civil society organizations, human rights, legal affairs, reconciliation and women contributing to strengthening the working of these committees.
  + In **Myanmar**, UNDP jointly with the IPU, led in organizing the first seminar on Human Rights at the parliament, attended by 350 Members of Parliament, which was followed by a series of master classes with smaller groups of Members of Parliament.
  + In **Albania**, UNDP has worked with parliamentary committees to ensure compliance with constitutional amendments reflecting commitments under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
  + In **Zambia**, UNDP has worked with partners to build capacities of members of parliament and communities to monitor access to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and to audit public infrastructure accessibility for persons with disability.
* In addition, UNDP offers several tools and knowledge products to guide and assists parliaments on their role in the SDGs and promotion of human rights:
  + **The** **Global Parliamentary Report 2017**, jointly produced by UNDP and the Inter-Parliamentary Union:

[*http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary\_development/global-parliamentary-report-2017.html*](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary_development/global-parliamentary-report-2017.html)

* + **Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals: A self-assessment toolkit**, jointly produced by UNDP and the Inter-Parliamentary Union: [*http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary\_development/parliament-s-role-in-implementing-the-sustainable-development-go.html*](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary_development/parliament-s-role-in-implementing-the-sustainable-development-go.html)
  + **Parliament's Role in Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: A Parliamentary Handbook,** jointly produced by UNDP, The Islamic Development Bank and the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption: [*http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary\_development/parliaments-and-the-sustainable-development-goals.html*](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary_development/parliaments-and-the-sustainable-development-goals.html)
  + **UNDP Guidance Note: Strategies and good practices in promoting gender equality outcomes in parliaments**: [*http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary\_development/guidance-note---strategies-and-good-practices-in-promoting-gende.html*](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary_development/guidance-note---strategies-and-good-practices-in-promoting-gende.html)
  + **Advancing the Human Rights and Inclusion of LGBTI People: A Handbook for Parliamentarians**, jointly produced by UNDP and Parliamentarians for Global Action:

[*http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary\_development/advancing-the-human-rights-and-inclusion-of-lgbti-people--a-hand.html*](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/democratic-governance/parliamentary_development/advancing-the-human-rights-and-inclusion-of-lgbti-people--a-hand.html)