



**7 OUT OF 17
— SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

**FRIEDRICH
EBERT 
STIFTUNG**

2030 Agenda and 17 global goals

TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD

In September 2015, the international community adopted the »2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development« at a United Nations summit. This global action plan combines poverty reduction and human development with ecological transformation, sustainable economic development, peace and international cooperation. At a time when nationalism and insecurity are on the rise, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda is a historic event.

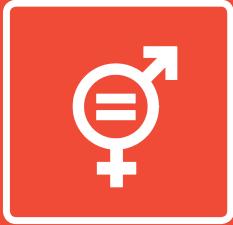
The implementation of the 2030 Agenda can change our world profoundly, because it claims universality and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals apply to poor and rich countries alike. In order to initiate genuine change, all of the goals must be viewed as equally important and interconnected. All actors – governmental and non-governmental – should work towards implementing the Agenda.

Approaches to sustainable development

PRIORITIES OF OUR INTERNATIONAL WORK

The 2030 Agenda is a crucial reference point for the international development cooperation of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). As a political foundation promoting the values of social democracy, we can claim special expertise on seven of the 17 goals that we focus on in our international work. In this way we accord central importance to those goals which we expect will meet with the most stubborn political resistance and which are in danger of being neglected. Therefore, our priority is to fulfil the promise of political change formulated in the 2030 Agenda in cooperation with our partners.

In particular, our aim is to support our partners from politics, trade unions and civil society in monitoring critically the implementation process at the national and international levels to ensure that governments actually meet their obligations. Until now it has been left largely up to the states to review whether and how far implementation has progressed.



GENDER EQUALITY

There has been major progress in recent years in advancing equal opportunity: discrimination against women has been reduced and successful struggles have been waged for greater social participation for women. However, women throughout the world still have less political influence and economic power than men. Only very few women rise to leadership positions and many have no access to education, social security or other important resources. Our aim is to collaborate with our partner organizations in the global South and North to bring about a transformation leading to political, social and economic structures marked by gender justice.

- We are working to ensure that paid and unpaid care work is included in economic policy discourses.
- Since women are affected seriously by precarious work and as a result are excluded from social security systems, we support the implementation of social protection floors.

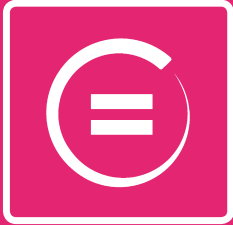


DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Decent work receives fair compensation; it is performed under suitable working conditions and it is a human right. The reality of many people's lives, however, is very different: they work extremely long hours, under degrading conditions and for a wage that barely covers the necessities of life. As a result, social inequality is becoming more extreme and economic growth is being hampered. Unions which denounce these abuses and work for improved labour and social standards are in many places suppressed by states and corporations. That is why we are working to strengthen free trade unions throughout the world.

- In our project countries we support the efforts of trade union movements to implement the »Decent Work Agenda« of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and to protect workers' rights including the right to strike.
- In our project »Trade Unions in Transformation«, we present examples of successful trade union strategies so that these can also be applied by other trade unions.

_Goal#10



REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Our world has never been as wealthy as it is today, and this wealth has never been as unequally distributed: just a handful of superrich individuals have as much wealth as half of the world's population combined. Tax loopholes and tax havens allow companies and private individuals to evade taxes. Not only is this often illegal, but it also denies societies urgently needed resources. It hampers development and often forces people to leave their homeland in order to secure their livelihood and feed their families. Therefore, we are joining with our partners worldwide in opposing illegitimate financial flows and in supporting fair taxation of corporations and the construction of equitable immigration regimes.

- Together with our partners, we are developing proposals for more effective regulation of transnational corporations and concepts for global tax justice.
- In our project »Causes of Flight ›Made in Europe««, we are debating European responsibility for migration and promoting the design of fair migration regimes.

_Goal#12



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Approximately 450 million people worldwide are employed in global value chains. Their rights are often trampled underfoot as companies compete for lucrative orders, exploitation rights and cheap raw materials. Who bears the responsibility when supplier firms violate human rights or flout environmental standards? In legal terms, there is no easy answer to this question at present and experience shows that voluntary codes of conduct are ineffective. This is why we are working with our partners to achieve binding legal requirements for multinational companies.

- Together with our partners, we are developing proposals for binding regulations governing corporate due diligence.
- Social and ecological standards should also be anchored in international trade agreements. With our project CLS+ (Core Labour Standards Plus) we are working towards this goal.

_Goal#13



CLIMATE ACTION

Radical structural change is needed to ensure that global warming remains well below 2°C. Instead of »business as usual«, we have to build economic systems which are humanly and environmentally sustainable – hence ones which are socially just, inclusive and have a small carbon footprint. In our view, »transforming our world« will have to take the form of a socio-ecological transformation. At the same time, capacities to adapt to extreme weather phenomena must be enhanced. In the wake of the Paris Agreement we are monitoring how the national climate protection plans are being reviewed and implemented so that societies can protect themselves better against the negative impacts of climate change.

- Together with our partners, we are committed to ensuring that adaptation measures to climate change, e.g. through participatory initiatives at the communal level, receive greater support from political decision-makers.
- In our project on »Just Transition« we are working with trade unions to demonstrate how an ecological structural transformation can be realised in socially acceptable ways.

_Goal#16



PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Insecurity, war and violence not only cause human suffering, but also destroy progress, development and social trust. A lasting peace can be restored only by measures and policies based on law and justice. Peace cannot be created by military means alone; therefore, priority must be given to instruments of civil crisis prevention and conflict management and international arms control must be expanded. For us, peace-building is always also a matter of building democracy, because inclusive and pluralistic societies are the precondition for peace and security.

- Together with our partners from politics, civil society and the military, we are working to support the often tension-laden process of exposing the security sector to democratic controls.
- In order to break through spirals of violence associated with drug economies, we are working with our partners to develop proposals for a drug policy that respects human dignity.

_Goal#17



PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

If the international community wants to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, then it will have to close ranks. The countries of the global North have a special responsibility to support the global South through partnerships for implementing the 2030 Agenda. In order to prevent partnerships from promoting the interests of the powerful unilaterally, we are working to ensure that representatives of the global South can gain a hearing for their positions. »Transforming our world« entails respecting financial commitments, developing fair trade regimes, building capacities and making technologies available.

- We support the work of the civil society Reflection Group on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in monitoring the implementation of 2030 Agenda as a whole and, in particular, in reminding wealthy countries of their commitments.
- In the »Financing for Development« debate, we are committed to promoting development-friendly debt financing and a reform of the international trade and financial architecture.

_Transforming our world:

PREAMBLE TO THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

»This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognise that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. (...)«

**_17 goals
to transform
our world**

