



## Better data, better lives: Celebrating 70 years of global statistical cooperation

Since its first session in 1947, the UN Statistical Commission has brought together senior statisticians from across the globe to make sure that all nations speak the same statistical language, using harmonized data. The goal has been clear from the start: getting the numbers right to help improve the lives of people around the world. And today, statistics are more vital than ever before. They give shape to our societies, point us in the right direction when interventions fall short, and show us where progress was made.

“I am proud to be a part of the professional community of chief statisticians from around the world who are bound together by a shared view of professional ethics and principles,” said Stefan Schweinfest, Director of UN DESA’s Statistics Division, ahead of the Commission’s 48th session, which takes place on 7-10 March 2017 at UN Headquarters in New York. The session this year will also commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Commission.

Looking back at seven decades of global statistical collaboration, many accomplishments have been made. “The Commission has always lived up to the challenges of the time. For instance, in the 1950s, it developed the System of National Accounts to measure post-war reconstruction efforts. In the 1970s, it developed Social Statistics Systems, and then in the 1990s, Environmental Statistics,” said Mr.

Schweinfest. Throughout these different phases, UN DESA has been there to support this important work.

## Bringing numbers and facts to the international community

In keeping with tradition, the upcoming session is expected to draw a large number of participants, bringing together some 300 statisticians from about 130 UN Member States. These are the professionals that deliver the numbers that explain progress made and provide guidance on our path forward in pursuit of peace and sustainable development.

Like in previous years, the session will be preceded by the Friday Seminar on Emerging Issues on 3 March, organized by UN DESA's Statistics Division. Putting a spotlight on "Open data – Adding value by matching access with privacy and security," the seminar will explore how open data initiatives can provide advantages to national statistical offices; bring benefits and efficiency gains to the overall economy and to citizens; and enhance capacity and knowledge to produce high quality official statistics.

During its formal plenary meetings, a wider range of statistical areas will be reviewed and new actions decided upon. Among them are agenda items on data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, big data for official statistics, quality assurance of the global statistical system, social statistics, integration of statistical and geospatial information and tourism statistics.

## Measuring progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Organized by UN DESA's Statistics Division on 6 March, the side event "The Data Ecosystem: Towards integrative national information systems," will take aim at geospatial information. This type of data links people, businesses and the economy to a particular place or geographic location, which can contribute to a fuller understanding of social and economic issues. The geographic dimension is also viewed as a key improvement to national statistics, as it provides the spatial framework and structure for collecting, processing, storing and aggregating the data. This type of data also meets the new requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Another side event organized that same day by the department is the High-level Forum on Official Statistics, this year taking place under the theme "Working together to measure progress towards the SDGs". It will focus on the cooperation between all members of the international statistical system and discuss how the compilation, validation and transmission of data for SDG monitoring can be further improved, taking into account national ownership of data and the need for international comparability.

## Anniversary exhibit and booklet presenting Commission Chairs

An event-filled programme will also feature other celebratory components to mark this milestone in the Commission's history. Just in time for this occasion, a special booklet will be published, presenting all the 33 men and women who have presided as chairs over this intergovernmental body since it began its work in 1947.

Delegates and other visitors at UN Headquarters in New York will also be able to enjoy an exhibit on display presenting the main achievements of the Commission in the past seven decades. A second exhibition will feature the first UN World Data Forum, which brought together over 1,400 participants from different data

communities to discuss ways in which we can work together to harness the power of data for sustainable development.

As the international community moves forward to meet current and emerging development challenges, the significance of the work of the Commission will continue to increase, as we will need data more than ever to pursue the development agenda of the present and the future.

For more information:

48th session of the UN Statistical Commission

## HIGHLIGHTS



### International Day highlights forests' role in sustainable energy

Until the advent of fossil fuels, for thousands of years, wood was the primary source of energy for human populations. Today, over 2 billion people worldwide, in rural and urban areas, still rely on wood for their primary energy needs. Wood constitutes the primary source of energy for cooking and heating in many developing countries, where nearly 90 per cent of fuelwood and charcoal is consumed.

Regions with the greatest incidence of poverty, most notably Sub-Saharan Africa and low income households in Asia, are also the most dependent on fuel wood. At the same time, the use of unsustainably harvested fuelwood, which often occurs in these areas, continues to be a challenge which has negative economic and environmental impacts.

Developing countries are not the only ones dependent on forests for energy. Bio energy from forest biomass (in various forms, including pellets, sticks and sawdust) accounts for about half of Europe's renewable-energy consumption. Countries across Europe are converting their power plants from using only coal to a mix of coal and wood products to meet renewable "carbon neutral" energy goals.

Technological advancements in the production of biomass energy, along with growing concerns over rising greenhouse gas emissions, make it increasingly likely that biomass energy from forest products will continue to serve as an important source of renewable energy in all countries in the future.

In recognition of these important inter-linkages between forests and energy, the central theme of the 2017 International Day of Forests is "Forests and Energy." The need for sustainable management of forests and sustainable energy resources has also been recognized in SDGs 7 and SDG 15 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The International Day of Forests, observed on 21 March every year, provides a global platform to raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests and trees. The United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat of UN DESA will organize a special event in celebration of the International Day of Forests on 21 March at UN Headquarters in New York, which will highlight how forests and energy are essential for the well-being of local communities and in green infrastructure for economic development. The event to be held in the ECOSOC Chamber, from 10 am to 1 pm, will also feature remarks by senior UN and government officials, a technical panel discussion as well as a general discussion by UN Member States and UN entities.

The International Day of Forests was established by the UN General Assembly in 2012. Activities held range from scientific conferences and workshops, to art exhibits, tree-planting and community-level events. The theme of the International Day reflects the multi-faceted aspects of forests, highlighting the many ways forests contribute to our daily lives and global sustainability.

For more information:  
[International Day of Forests](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS



### Youth show commitment towards SDGs at ECOSOC Youth Forum

Acknowledging that youth play a key role to the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations hosted several hundred young leaders at the annual ECOSOC Youth Forum in New York on 30-31 January, to address some of the most pressing issues of our time. For the first time since its inception, the forum also featured a designated SDG Media Zone, a platform for direct interactive discussions between youth activists and development veterans on how to work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

“It gives me confidence to see such a diverse group of young people coming together to share our common goals,” Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of ECOSOC said as he officially opened the forum. “As young people, you bring something essential to the table: new perspectives. And it is through new ideas and policies that we will make progress.”

“Just by being here, you show you care about the issues,” UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a video address. “Poverty. Unemployment. Climate change. Inequality. Injustice. You, your friends and young people around the world are living these realities.”

At the SDG media zone, the discussion centered around a myriad of issues ranging from peace and humanitarian action to sustainable agriculture, health and employment. Trisha Shetty, co-founder of SheSays, an organization aiming to end

gender-based discrimination in India remarked that the strength of the SDGs lay in their universality, interdependency and the premise of leaving no one behind. “The issues of hunger, poverty, gender discrimination, are not restricted to specific regions and are not restricted to specific continents,” she said.

The Youth Forum saw the highest number of participants since its creation, with a record number of ministers, government officials, youth delegates and youth representatives from all over the world joining in on the discussions. It underscored the commitment of the international community to learn from young people, and let youth leaders play an active role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It also gave youth activist a platform to indicate for themselves how they see their participation towards a more sustainable world. Kanchan Amatya, founder of the Sustainable Fish Farming Initiative, underscored for example why young people are very much needed to revive the vital but aging agricultural ventures around the world. “If young people are not involved in agriculture now, in 20 years time we will face a very big food insecurity,” she said.

However, despite the clear necessity for young people to be included in development negotiations, there is still a long way to go until young people fully claim their seat at the table.

“I think a lot of the time in conferences, and especially at the UN, we are always like “youth youth youth, you can do it, you are the leaders of today”,” Nicole Perez, of the US Youth Observatory for the UN said. “But I just want to acknowledge: it is not easy.”

Young leaders are more engaged in development issues than ever before, especially through the use of digital platforms and media. United through social media, they have created some of the most powerful movements for change the world has seen in recent decades.

In his closing address, ECOSOC President Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava encouraged the young leaders to stay committed to the success of the SDGs as they venture back out into the world: “I would like to call on our young women and men to continue to engage with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” he said. “Wherever you go, advocate for the SDGs, support their implementation and hold your Governments accountable.”

For more information:  
UN Youth Forum 2017



## UN calls for commitments to safeguard the world's oceans ahead of first major conference

Calling for concrete actions to protect the oceans, the United Nations has launched an online register to collect voluntary commitments made by UN Member States, businesses, civil society organizations, the UN System and other intergovernmental organizations that can meaningfully contribute to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.

The Government of Sweden, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Peace Boat group, a non-governmental organization, were the first to list their contributions on the Registry of Voluntary Commitments during its launch at the Preparatory Meeting of The Ocean Conference on 15 February.

Their commitments highlight efforts to protect the marine environment, curb marine pollution and address the impact of ocean acidification. Further commitments have been made since then, by the World Meteorological Organization to improve weather forecasting in polar regions, and by CALAO Luxembourg ASBL to protect the biodiversity of Cabo Verde from marine debris.

“Between now and The Ocean Conference in June, we’re expecting hundreds of actionable voluntary commitments to be registered. They must comprehensively cover all targets for the implementation of SDG 14,” said the President of the UN General Assembly, Peter Thomson of Fiji. “These voluntary commitments will be central to the global plan to reverse the cycle of decline into which human activity has put the Ocean.”

A list of voluntary commitments from all stakeholders in driving implementation of SDG 14 will be a central outcome of The Ocean Conference, which will take place from 5 to 9 June in New York. The Conference will support the implementation of SDG 14, which calls for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources. The Conference will also result in a declaration that will serve as a “Call to Action” to support the implementation of the Goal.

“This is a matter for all of humanity,” said the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate and the Deputy Prime Minister of Sweden, Isabella Lövin. “The Ocean Conference is the opportunity for all stakeholders to make their voluntary commitments to save our ocean.”

The Government of Sweden commits to expand its marine protected areas to reach the SDG 14 target in 2017; UNEP will campaign to stop plastic pollution in the ocean;

and the Peace Boat group aims to launch the “Ecoship Project”, a 55,000 ton energy efficient vessel which will set sail in 2020 as a flagship for the SDGs.

“Only by mobilizing all actors, from Governments and the UN system, to major groups and other stakeholders, can we generate the actions needed to conserve and protect our oceans and seas for future generations,” said the Conference Secretary-General and UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Wu Hongbo. “The registry of voluntary commitments will be an important tool in this endeavor.”

More than three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods. However, today some 30 percent of the world’s fish stocks are over exploited, reaching below the level at which they can produce sustainable yields.

Oceans also absorb about 30 percent of the carbon dioxide produced by humans, but there has been a 26 percent rise in ocean acidification since the beginning of the industrial revolution. Marine pollution, an overwhelming majority of which comes from land-based sources, is reaching alarming levels, with an average of 13,000 pieces of plastic litter to be found on every square kilometre of ocean.

For more information:

[The Ocean Conference Registry of Voluntary Commitments](#)

## EXPERT VOICES



### Data to help measure gender equality

This month, gender equality and data to improve people’s lives will take center stage at UN Headquarters in New York, with the UN Statistical Commission taking place, immediately followed by the Commission on the Status of Women. As it was some 30 years ago since UN DESA initiated the work on gender statistics, we asked Francesca Grum, Chief of the Social and Housing Statistics Section in UN DESA’s Statistics Division, how it all got started

and how data plays a role for women’s empowerment.

This month, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will hold its 61st session. How does data play a role for women’s empowerment?

“In order to design and implement fit-for purpose gender policies based on facts, assess progress towards gender equality and women’s empowerment and keep governments accountable, relevant, timely and high-quality data and statistics are needed.

Data allow the identification and localization of gaps between women and men, as well as girls and boys, in critical areas of well-being. Data support the collective understanding of the causes and consequences of these gaps and inform the design, implementation and assessment of policies and programmes to address and reduce them.

Without data, evidence-based decision making aiming at empowering women and girls, improving their lives and the lives of their families and communities, would not be possible.”

**What are some of the key areas in which you collect statistics to measure gender equality?**

“UN DESA’s Statistics Division has been collecting, analyzing and disseminating gender statistics and providing an assessment of progress towards the goal of gender equality and women’s empowerment since the 1980s, including through the publication *The World’s Women: Trends and Statistics* first published in 1991 and most recently in 2015.

The *World’s Women* publications have been published every 5 years presenting a statistical analysis of the situation of women in comparison to men and highlighting gender gaps in a broad range of areas of concern including poverty, health, education, work, power and decision making, violence, environment and population/family.

The Statistics Division, in collaboration with specialized agencies, also maintains the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators data portal, agreed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2011 as a basic set of indicators for national production and international compilation of gender statistics. It presents trend data for more than 60 indicators on women’s economic empowerment; education; health; public life and decision-making; and human rights and it includes specific indicators on social norms and discriminatory laws.”

**You also track data on for example violence against women. How is this work making a difference to improve women’s lives?**

“Violence against women violates the most basic human rights, impedes the achievement of gender equality and is an obstacle to overall development. It is widely recognized as a form of discrimination against women reflecting the pervasive imbalance of power between women and men. Women across the world, regardless of income, age or education, are subject to many forms of violence including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence. The latest global estimates show that one in every three women has experienced physical or sexual violence at some point in her lifetime.

In order to address and prevent violence against women with effective policies, data are needed to assess the magnitude of the phenomena and understand its causes and consequences.

The Statistics Division has been working for several years on the methodological aspects of measuring violence and has produced in 2013 a set of guidelines to produce statistics from household surveys. A dedicated data portal with the latest national data on the prevalence of different forms of violence against women is also available on the Division website.

The Division is also working closely with national statistical offices and other stakeholders to ensure countries develop the technical skills needed to collect reliable data for the production of statistics on violence against women, according to agreed international standards and in line with their national context and data needs.”



How will data help ensure that we achieve the SDGs including goal 5 on gender equality?

“The need for quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for the measurement of progress towards the SDGs and to ensure that no one is left behind is widely recognized, including in the General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1.

Data are needed to identify and quantify gender issues, highlight population sub-groups including vulnerable groups and those with special needs, and allow the monitoring of progress towards specific targets. Without data, the development of programmes and interventions and the assessment of their effectiveness would not be possible. Data is key to evidence-based decision-making and monitoring.”

This year, UN DESA is celebrating seven decades supporting UN Member States in the area of economic, social and sustainable development. Perhaps not that many people know this, but the work on gender statistics was initiated in DESA some 30 years ago. Can you share with our readers how it all got started?

“The Statistics Division’s work programme on gender statistics was initiated in the early 1980s, mid-way into the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (1976-1985) and in response to the call for more statistics on the status of women. International Women conferences were the initial driving force for the work of the division in this area as they created a demand for statistics to monitor the conferences outcomes, set the political agenda for action and mobilize resources.

Of particular relevance to the development of our programme on gender statistics is the outcome document of the 4th UN World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), known as the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) that recognized the importance of appropriate data for understanding gender gaps, designing policies and assessing progress towards the goal of gender equality, and requested the collection, compilation, analysis and presentation of statistics reflecting problems, issues and questions related to women and men in society, disaggregated by sex and age.

Since then, the Statistics Division’s programme on gender statistics has centered on improving the capacity of countries to collect, disseminate and use reliable statistics and indicators to assess the relative situation of women and men in gender-sensitive, policy-relevant areas. The Programme has focused on: (a) developing and promoting methodological guidelines and addressing emerging issues of gender concern, including on violence against women, asset ownership and entrepreneurship and time use; (b) providing technical assistance and training to strengthen national capacity for the production, dissemination and use of gender relevant statistics; (c) compiling gender statistics and facilitating access to data; and (d) improving coherence among existing initiatives on gender statistics through international coordination.

The success of the programme has given the Statistics Division an unparalleled recognition in the field of gender statistics, resulting in strong partnerships with counterpart agencies, coordinated support for the development of gender statistics and a renewed and strengthened mandate from the United Nations Statistical Commission. In 2011, the Commission established the Global Gender Statistics Programme, coordinated by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) and implemented by UN DESA’s Statistics Division and key stakeholders.”

For more information:

UN DESA’s Statistics Division: Gender statistics



## End Poverty in all its forms everywhere remains a paramount challenge, but it can be done

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will require coherent, coordinated and strong social policies that leave no one behind. The Commission for Social Development

concluded its fifty-fifth session on 10 February 2017, approving three draft resolutions on youth, disability and the social dimensions of New Partnership for Africa's Development.

This year the Commission focused on "Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all".

### Poverty remains a major threat and political will is needed

Millions of people live in extreme poverty and many more are at risk of falling into poverty and social exclusion. In particular, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, continue to face greater vulnerabilities. People living in extreme poverty lack the political power, access to decent jobs, quality education, healthcare, electricity, safe drinking water and sanitation, to take charge of their destiny in order to get out of and stay out of poverty.

As the 2030 Agenda states – "eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development". With strong political will and a right mix of policies, "ending extreme poverty by 2030 is also within our reach," said the Peter Thomson, President of the 71st Session of the General Assembly.

The global fight against poverty could only be won by investing in people and create decent work opportunities, especially in rural areas, that enable them to escape and stay out of poverty. Social policy can play an important role to eradicate poverty and advance sustainable development.

"Today's generation can be the one that eradicates poverty and turns the tide on inequality, exclusion and environmental degradation," highlighted Frederick Musiwa Makamure Shava, President of the Economic and Social Council.

High levels of inequality pose a significant challenge to poverty eradication and sustainable development, which points to the need for effective policy interventions to combat inequality in all its all dimensions.

"While significant progress had been made in eradicating extreme poverty, conflicts were reversing decades of hard-won improvements in social well-being, and the gap

between rich and poor was growing,” said Lenni Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in UN DESA, delivering a statement on behalf of Secretary-General António Guterres.

During the opening session, Rozemarijn Ter Horst, a youth representative, highlighted the outcomes of the ECOSOC Youth Forum, including recommendations under the Goals to be reviewed by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2017.

Daniel Perrel, Chair of the NGO Committee on Social Development also presented the outcome of the Civil Society Forum which emphasized social protection, including floors, as a preeminent strategy to eradicate poverty and achieve social development for all.

## Promoting integrated policies for poverty eradication

Poverty deprives people from fulfilling their potential and well-being. It is one of the root causes of violence, crime and conflict and prevents people from living with dignity.

“Sustainable and inclusive development is the best way to secure and ensure lasting peace,” United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, in his message to the Commission.

New policy approaches and strategies are required to tackle poverty in all its forms and dimensions. Many Government ministers and high-level officials expressed optimism that the Commission’s unflagging support of inclusive, participatory and rights-based development strategies will greatly contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular, its overarching goal of eradicating poverty with leaving no one behind.

“Tackling poverty in all its forms will require sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and determined policy action... An inclusive, multi-stakeholder approach is perhaps more important in the work of this Commission than in any other one,” said Philipp Charwath, Chairperson of the 55th session of the Commission for Social Development.

CSocD55 hosted three high-level panel discussions where panelists and delegations highlighted the importance of promoting universal access to social protection, effectively mainstreamed youth perspectives in poverty eradication strategies, and developed a UN System-wide Action Plan on Disability in order to advance disability inclusive development.

More than fifty side events took place during the session, highlighting a wide range of issues such as, mental health and well-being for youth, shared societies, inclusive cities for sustainable families, sustainable transport, social protection, the role of media and civil society in strengthening social policy frameworks for poverty eradication.

For more information:

55th Commission for Social Development



## UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: a conversation with experts

This year marks 10 years since the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) was adopted, setting minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of indigenous peoples around the world.

Ahead of its anniversary on 13 September, UN DESA's Division of Social Policy and Development (DSPD) gathered experts for a three-day meeting on 25-27 January to discuss achievements made and challenges that remain in realizing the UN Declaration at the global, regional and national levels.

The meeting was the first step in a series of events to take stock of the current situation and to advance the lives and rights of indigenous peoples. This includes the direction that the UN Declaration takes as governments around the world continue to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UN Declaration has also played its part in influencing the new phase of global goals. In fact, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) now show six direct references to indigenous peoples. This is a major step forward compared to the Millennium Development Goals, where indigenous peoples were largely invisible.

In light of the anniversary, we asked experts attending the meeting, where the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has made an impact, and how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are making a difference. Check out this video to hear what the experts answer!

For more information:

[UN DESA's Division for Social Policy and Development – Indigenous peoples](#)

## Bringing about positive change for people on the move



The **New York Declaration** calls on countries to:

Protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of their status

Increase support for the hardest hit countries

Boost humanitarian funding and resettlement of refugees

Assist despairing people in protracted crises

Improve search and rescue operations

Ensure that children get an education

#UN4RefugeesMigrants  
refugeesmigrants.un.org

“Five months ago, the General Assembly came together to address the issues associated with large movements of refugees and migrants,” UN DESA’s Under-Secretary-General Wu Hongbo said in his opening remarks to the meeting, which was held on 16-17 February.

“The result was the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants [...], which set us on a path to develop a global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, to be adopted at an intergovernmental conference on international migration to be held in 2018,” Mr. Wu said.



The two-day event held at UN headquarters in New York covered a wide range of topics vital to addressing today’s migration challenges and to alleviate the hardship of millions of people on the move. Discussions evolved around the next steps to implement the New York Declaration, preparations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration,

human rights dimensions and social inclusion as well as implementing the migration-related commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

“You gather at a crucial time, with hundreds of millions of people affected by the issues at stake. We cannot fail them; we must work [more] closely than ever before,” conveyed Secretary-General António Guterres in his message delivered by Mr. Wu.

“Migration is a pressing global issue that should not be viewed solely as a problem but rather as a potential solution to many of the challenges we face today. In the current atmosphere of rising xenophobia, it is essential to have a clearheaded understanding of the facts,” Mr. Guterres said.

Mr. Guterres stressed that human rights must guide our work; that we need to address the root causes of displacement; and that realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development must be a top priority.

“We must forcefully reject discrimination [...]. It is important to respond to misrepresentations with truth and replace fear with hope. That is the aim of our TOGETHER campaign, which deserves wide support,” Mr. Guterres said.

In his message, the Secretary-General also highlighted the important contributions of migrants to development. “Migrants often perform critical jobs and send remittances to their families in what amounts to a major contribution to development,” he said.

The positive impact of migrants was also something that Bela Hovy, Chief of the Migration Section in UN DESA’s Population Division highlighted in a Facebook live interview in connection with the event.

“Today, the amount of remittances that migrants are sending back is over 400 billion dollars each year,” explained Mr. Hovy, describing how this money is used “to send children to school, to improve housing, to have better access to water, to healthcare”. “[...] [T]hese are all development goals. So what we see is that migration and the remittances it generates, contribute to the development goals that the Member States have agreed upon.”

**Related information:**

[Fifteenth Coordination Meeting on International Migration](#)  
[New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants](#)  
[Migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)  
[Together campaign](#)  
[Facebook live interviews](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |                                      |                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1 March, New York</b>             | Expert Group Meeting on Partnership Data for the SDGs                    |
| <b>7-10 March, New York</b>          | 48th Session of the UN Statistical Commission                            |
| <b>20-24 March, New York</b>         | Committee for Development Policy                                         |
| <b>21 March</b>                      | International Day of Forests                                             |
| <b>27-31 March, Arusha, Tanzania</b> | Workshop on Environment Statistics for the East African Community Region |

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