WHAT DOES UN DESA DO?

UN DESA is a vital interface between global policies and national action in the economic, social and environmental spheres. Our main activities focus on promoting progress towards global development priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UN DESA’s work falls into three broad categories:

**Intergovernmental support**
By facilitating major global conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental fields, as mandated by UN Member States, UN DESA assists countries as they find common ground, set norms, and take decisive steps forward.

**Analysis**
UN DESA, generates, analyses and compiles and monitors a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and statistics to inform and advise Member States and other stakeholders on recommendations for shaping effective development policy and practice.

**Capacity-building**
UN DESA aids in translating policy frameworks developed in UN conferences and summits into programmes at the country level. Through technical assistance and advisory support, the Department supports Member States to build capacities in policy formulation and implementation, data collection and data application, to translate internationally agreed commitments, standards, policies and programmes into action on the ground.

In executing these functions, UN DESA helps governments and other stakeholders take integrated and networked approaches to decision-making, organising and supporting consultations with a range of stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society.

MAJOR DATABASES

- UN COVID-19 Data Hub
- UN Data
- UN e-Government Knowledge Database
- UN Global SDG Indicators Database
- UN SDG Data Hub
- UN LDC Data
- Ocean Voluntary Commitment Database
- UN Public Service Awards Database
- Population databases
- SDG Acceleration Action Database
- SDG Good Practices Database
- SIDS Partnerships Database
- UN Comtrade International Trade Statistics Database
- UN System SDG Implementation Database
- Voluntary National Reviews Database

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS

- World Social Report
- World Economic Situation and Prospects
- Financing for Sustainable Development Report
- International Migration Report
- State of the World’s Indigenous Peoples
- The Global Forest Goals Report
- The Sustainable Development Goals Report
- The World’s Women 2020: Trends and Statistics
- The World’s Women 2022: Summary of Results
- World Population Prospects
- World Public Sector Report
- World Youth Report