

# Annual Report 2023



**UNRISD** UNITED NATIONS  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
FOR SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT





The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the United Nations system that undertakes interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. Through our work, we aim to ensure that social equity, inclusion and justice are central to development thinking, policy and practice.

UNRISD depends entirely on voluntary contributions from national governments, multilateral donors, foundations and other sources, and receives no financial support from the regular budget of the United Nations. We gratefully acknowledge the support received from our funding partners at the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID) and Robert Bosch Stiftung.

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May 2024

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# Note from the Director.

It gives me great pleasure to present the 2023 annual progress report of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). This report outlines UNRISD's goals and achievements, as well as the institutional and financial resources utilized, for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

The year represented the mid-point of UNRISD's institutional strategy (2021–2025)—Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract. The work UNRISD and its global research network took forward in 2023 sought to provide practical policy guidance to UN Member States and others who are committed to reducing all types of inequalities. The reduction of inequalities is central to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its overarching commitment to leaving no-one behind, as well as SDGs 5 and 10 specifically. The vision of new eco-social contracts captures the transformation that is needed in economies and societies to make them more inclusive and sustainable.

Established in 1963, UNRISD commenced its 60th anniversary celebrations in the year under review. As part of a series of events to commemorate UNRISD's founding, we held a successful and exciting competition and exhibition exploring “The Art of Equality” and deepened our stakeholder engagement through new approaches to learning and incorporating our partners' priorities.

Financially, it was a year of adjustment. With the withdrawal of Sweden (Sida) and Switzerland (SDC) as institutional funders as of January 2023, significant time and effort was put into exploring new institutional and programme funders throughout the year. During this period, it was necessary to make cost savings and run down reserves, which had been built up year-on-year since 2016 to self-insure against shocks. These efforts started to produce fruit in the second half of the year and will be reflected in the 2024 position.

I will step down from my position as UNRISD Director in 2024 and can reflect on a privileged time in a very special part of the United Nations. I am extremely proud of the Institute and the work it leads. I would like to thank our Board, staff members, consultants, collaborating researchers, donors and partners within and beyond the UN for the hard work that made our achievements possible in 2023, and since 2015 when I first stepped behind my desk at UNRISD.



A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul Ladd". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

**Paul Ladd**  
Director, UNRISD







# Executive Summary

In 2023, UNRISD celebrated 60 years of research for social change. In the year of its 60th anniversary, the institute showcased once more its capacity to leverage research, partnerships and communications to promote economic, social, gender and environmental justice, and support countries in designing inclusive and sustainable eco-social contracts. A highlight of the anniversary celebrations was the launch of the #ImagineEquality campaign. Beyond mere celebration, the campaign urged a thoughtful reflection on reimagining social justice and sustainability for the future and engaged powerful voices, artists, and change makers, including several UN leaders. Through its work on transformative social policy, alternative economies for transformation, gender justice and development, and environmental and climate justice, UNRISD made impactful contributions to the global evidence base and policy discourse. This report offers an overview of UNRISD's achievements and initiatives in 2023, highlighting its commitment to promote just, fair, and sustainable futures through cutting-edge research and global advocacy.

Under the ● **Transformative Social Policy Programme**, work focused on impact, partnerships and outreach activities related to the UNRISD flagship report 2022, undertaken in close collaboration with the Bonn Programme and the Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract (GRAN-ESC). UNRISD's engagement with Club de Madrid's Annual Policy Dialogue, which was framed by the UNRISD eco-social contract vision, placed our research on fair fiscal contracts at the highest policy level within and beyond the UN. Another highlight was the launch of the MIDEQ project's policy report, which offers new ideas and thinking on ways to reduce structural inequalities shaping migration

experiences, change negative narratives and improve global migration governance. Our annual celebration of World Social Work Day at the UN in Geneva strengthened our partnerships with social work scholars and practitioners around the world and highlighted the value of diversity and joint social action in our societies.

In 2023, the ● **Alternative Economies for Transformation Programme** made significant strides by launching the Sustainable Development Performance Indicators (SDPI) Online Platform, a crucial step forward in support of sustainability reporting. Building on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) Encyclopedia project, the programme continued promoting SSE knowledge and actively engaged in the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE). This included a paper laying the groundwork for the UN General Assembly negotiations for the adoption of the resolution on the potential of SSE for sustainable development. The programme continued its research on peace-building efforts in conflict-affected regions. Furthermore, it delved into household debt management practices across various countries. In collaboration with IIRI and Chung Mong-Koo (CMK) Foundation, the programme also launched the Advanced Programme on Human Rights and Sustainable Development (APOHS), offering a new training course for young professionals interested in international cooperation careers.

UNRISD's ● **Gender Justice and Development Programme** fostered collaborations and drafted publications addressing anti-gender while advancing ecofeminism discourses, integrated care systems, gender equality and LGBTIQ+ rights. The highlight of the year was the launch of the

Global Digital Community on Care (GDCC) in partnership with the Global Alliance for Care (GAC), UN Women, the National Women's Institute of Mexico and the International Development Research Centre of Canada (IDRC). Collaborations with GAC included co-organizing a side event at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) and a panel at COP28, laying groundwork for a new initiative on climate and care with AVINA, Oxfam Canada and GAC. In May 2023, the programme launched a course titled "Gender and Intersectionality in Development and International Cooperation", funded by AECID to train staff to integrate feminist and intersectional perspectives into their work. The programme's engagements, from advising on constitutional processes to addressing climate justice, highlight UNRISD's commitment to global gender equality, also recognized by the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNSWA).

UNRISD's ● **Environmental and Climate Justice Programme** advanced its work on resilience and just energy transitions during the reporting period. The State of Resilience in Africa project, after completing its first phase, transitioned into action by integrating feedback from stakeholders and fostering collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and the UNDP Resilience Hub. Simultaneously, the Just Transition Research Collaborative assessed Just Energy Transition Partnerships, culminating in a policy brief launched at COP28. Moreover, the Network for Equity in Transitions from Fossil Fuels has been convening dialogues among diverse stakeholders, laying the groundwork for a more inclusive, progressive and global South-led just transition vision.

Meanwhile, the ● **Bonn Programme** focused its efforts on harnessing UNRISD research to inform policy making, capacity building and creating new partnerships and alliances in the Bonn ecosystem and beyond. A key milestone was a high-level launch event of the UNRISD 2022 flagship report *Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract* at the Robert Bosch Stiftung in Berlin, with German policy makers, members of parliament, civil society and academics. In 2023, the GRAN-ESC saw remarkable growth, expanding its membership to

over 300 members. A key milestone for the year was the Global Policy Seminar in Bonn co-hosted with the Green Economy Coalition (GEC), which marked the launch of the Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts, a compendium of outputs produced by the members of the network, visiting fellows, UNRISD staff and collaborating researchers exploring visions, processes and implementation challenges associated with new eco-social contracts. This event brought together a range of experts and activists from the network, as well as multiple partners from the Bonn sustainability hub, to discuss how to shape sustainable future strategies, marking a key milestone in the network's growth and impact. During the seminar, papers selected from a Call for Papers organized by the TSP programme on eco-social contracts were also presented. In collaboration with GIZ, the programme delivered a training course and produced a set of guidelines for reducing inequalities in policies and interventions targeting climate change and just transitions, social protection, and sustainable and inclusive economic development.

Throughout these endeavors, UNRISD's ● **Communication and Outreach (C&O) Unit** guided the strategy to amplify the Institute's voice and impact. From revamped stakeholder events to innovative activities like "The Art of Equality" exhibition, UNRISD celebrated its legacy while also expanding its outreach efforts and strengthening partnerships globally.

Despite funding challenges, UNRISD's efforts underscored its important role in producing evidence-based policy guidance and in driving the discourse on overcoming inequalities and nurturing sustainable global partnerships.

# About UNRISD

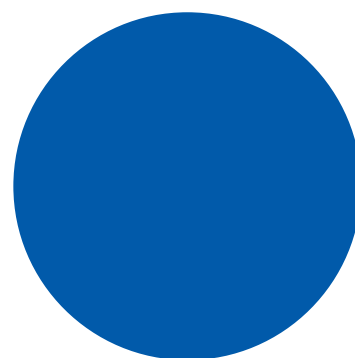


## Years of Research for Social Change

### Introduction

UNRISD undertakes cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. Since the Institute's founding in 1963 as an autonomous research institute within the United Nations system, UNRISD has occupied a vital position in the global development community, bringing a plurality of perspectives and knowledge to inform the work of the United Nations and global policy making and development, most recently on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We work collaboratively with an extensive global network of academics, policy makers, practitioners and activists to advance transformative change through research by positioning equity, inclusion and justice at the forefront of sustainable development policy and practice.

UNRISD is funded entirely through voluntary contributions. The Institute reports to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) through public biennial submissions to the Commission for Social Development and is guided by a Board of independent academic advisors.



# Research agenda: Overcoming inequalities

## Strategic framework

Our research programmes are guided by the UNRISD 2021–2025 institutional strategy, *Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract*. All programmes support transformative change to advance sustainable social development, paying particular attention to the importance of inclusion, institutions, intersections and innovations. Tackling the root causes and drivers of inequalities is a cross-cutting objective of all the research programmes. Each programme furthermore brings insight to the development of a new eco-social contract that is inclusive of all people, guarantees their participation, and advances social development within the natural boundaries provided by our planet and its ecosystems. All programmes are furthermore driven by perspectives from the global South, seeking innovations and alternatives that replace business-as-usual approaches, and are grounded in an understanding of the politics of change.

## Our programmes

The strategy and objectives are realized through five research programmes. Of these, four programmes—Transformative Social Policy, Gender Justice and Development, Alternative Economies for Transformation, and Environmental and Climate Justice—are policy oriented. They set out to mobilize research to contribute to the development of policies and practices that reduce inequalities and combat injustice in different dimensions, while also helping to shape future social contracts that are more inclusive, ecologically sensitive and aligned with the fulfilment of all human rights. A fifth programme, led by UNRISD’s office in Bonn, Germany, concentrates on amplifying the uptake and impact of the Institute’s research, and on engaging researchers, policy makers, practitioners

and activists to strengthen evidence-informed implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Together, the programmes seek to promote justice—social, gender, economic, climate—in a cross-cutting, integrated and holistic manner as a means to overcoming inequalities and promoting sustainable development.



## Our research networks

The UNRISD research process itself contributes to transformation. We collaborate with institutions, researchers and practitioners in our extensive and growing interdisciplinary networks—which amplify the Institute’s global reach and influence—to co-design research and co-produce knowledge. Our institutional strategy commits us to looking to the global South for collaborations with a view to identifying research areas, policy-relevant questions and methodologies, and amplifying marginalized voices and perspectives. In so doing, we seek to ensure that our research reflects the diversity and depth needed to ensure relevance and impact.

## Results-based measurement framework

We track our performance toward the objectives in the UNRISD 2021–2025 strategy through a results-based management (RBM) logframe that sets out key indicators to be monitored and reported on.

The specific objectives under the institutional strategy are to:

**1. Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.**

UNRISD will produce and convene high-quality, relevant research that addresses inequalities and the 2030 Agenda principle of “leaving no one behind” within the context of the implementation of the SDGs.

**2. Develop the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues, through co-design of research methods and a mutual learning approach.**

UNRISD will help develop the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on the social dimensions of sustainable development issues through co-designing research methods and enquiries, a mutual learning approach, and a mentoring programme within the framework of UNRISD research projects.

**3. Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development.**

UNRISD will make knowledge—in the form of research and research-derived products and training and learning materials—available and accessible by communicating research in ways that facilitate its uptake and use by key change actors in the policy, advocacy and practitioner communities at national, regional and international levels.

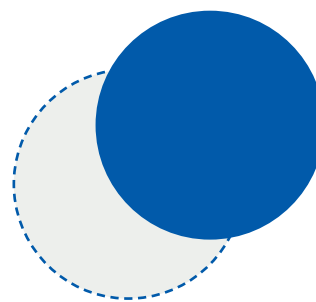
**4. Convene and catalyse knowledge sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.**

UNRISD will pursue its collaborative approach to engagement, providing spaces for mutual learning through seminars, workshops, panel discussions, conferences, and promoting under-represented viewpoints and alternative policy options.

**5. Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.**

UNRISD will further enhance its efforts to broaden the Institute’s donor base, ensure sufficient reserves, and maintain and extend partnerships.

See annex 2 for our full reporting against our RBM framework.



# Our Results

## Highlights 2023

Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.

**412**

Network members

56% women

**68**

Research outputs

81% relevant for LICs/LDCs

**390**

Citations

Develop the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues.

**47**

% of network from the global South

**46**

% contributors to research outputs from the global South (59% women)

**48**

% invited event participants from the global South (54% women)

Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development.

**56k**

Publication downloads

**339k**

Website visits

**164**

Advisory activities

Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.

**22**

Events

**86**

% with UN, civil society or multisectoral partners

**289**

Event panellists

Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.

**3.2m**

Total funding (USD)

**43**

% of Board members are women

**6**

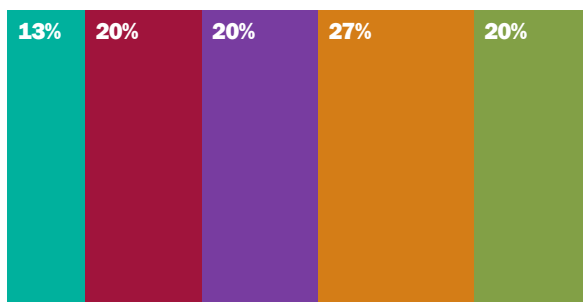
Global regions represented on Board

→ See annex 2 for the full reporting against our RBM framework.

# Our research programmes

**15**  
active projects

**5**  
programmes



Project distribution per programme, 2023

- Transformative Social Policy
- Alternative Economies for Transformation
- Gender Justice and Development
- Environmental and Climate Justice
- Translating Research to Policy and Practice

## Geographic focus

- Global
- Asia and the Pacific
- North Africa
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean

## Thematic areas

- Inequality
- Eco-social contract
- Capacity development
- Care and work
- Climate change mitigation
- Development
- Economic and social development
- Economy of care
- Environment and peace
- Equity
- Feminist foreign policy
- Gender justice
- Household debt
- Intersectionality
- Knowledge sharing
- Low-carbon transition
- Masculinities
- Markets, business and technology
- Measurement and indicators
- Migration
- Partnerships
- Public policy
- Research uptake
- Resilience
- SDGs
- Social and solidarity economy
- Social policy
- Social work
- South-South migration
- Sustainable development
- Transformation

## Our donors



## Our partners

African Union Commission, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations, Bahá'í International Community (BIC), Center for the Implementation of Public Policies for Equity and Growth (CIPPEC), Commonwealth Secretariat, Commonwealth Organisation for Social Work (COSW), Commonwealth Youth Programme, Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs) of the Council of Europe, Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), El Colegio de México (CM), Engaged Donors for Global Equity (EDGE) Funders Alliance, FaithInvest, German Federal Foreign Office, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Geneva Office, Fundación Carolina, Geneva Graduate Institute, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Global Alliance for Care, Global Commission on Drug Policy, Global Social Service Workforce Alliance (GSSWA), Global Student Forum (GSF), Green Economy Coalition (GEC), Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE), Human Dignity Trust, International Association for Community Development (IACD), International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE), International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW), International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA), International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), IOM Guinea Office, JTRC collaborators, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), Latin American Team for Gender Justice (ELA), Levy Institute of Bard College, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Metropolitan Autonomous University, MIDEQ consortium, Power Us, Public Services International (PSI), r3.0, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, School of Social Work, Fribourg (HETS-FR), School of Social Work, Geneva (HETS-GE), Social Work Ethics Research Group (SWERG), UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre, UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa, UNDP Sudan Office, UNEP Geneva Office, UNESCO Cambodia Office, University of South Africa (UNISA), UN Mine Action Service (UN MAS), UN Task Force on SSE, UNCTAD, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNESCO Chair in Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts, University of Geneva, WFP Guinea Office, What Next?, World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA).

# 60 years of research for social change



Established in 1963, UNRISD was the inspiration of two intellectual giants of the United Nations: Nobel laureates Jan Tinbergen and Gunnar Myrdal. These leading thinkers understood that neglect of social questions in development thinking and practice would compromise the “development project” itself. They also recognized the importance of an independent research function at the heart of the UN, separate from advisory and operational work, but able to feed directly into “action programmes of the United Nations system”. Thus, UNRISD was formed as the only institution in the United Nations system with a mandate dedicated exclusively to research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues. UNRISD’s autonomous status ensures that it can freely conduct critical research, even on politically sensitive issues. For six decades, UNRISD has continued to push the boundaries of development discourses into critical terrain, and this pioneering spirit has defined its trajectory, yielding notable contributions in various areas.

The Institute has expanded the ideas of social development, taking on more new, innovative and also contentious issues, often challenging the discourse of powerful actors, playing “David with the Goliaths of international development”. During its early years, UNRISD played a pivotal role in shaping the foundations of social development, laying the groundwork for the eventual formulation of the

Human Development Index in 1990. In the 1970s, the institute directed its focus toward agriculture, food and the green revolution, emphasizing the significance of small-scale farmers in ensuring food security and sustainability. As the 1995 Copenhagen Summit on Social Development approached, UNRISD delved into the social dynamics and impacts of globalization, contributing a staunching critique of the social costs of adjustment. The Institute has been at the forefront of research on gender equality and women’s empowerment, particularly in developing methodologies for measuring women’s unpaid care work, solidifying its central role in the realms of research and policy on economies and societies of care. Under the guidance of the Director Thandika Mkandawire, UNRISD conducted influential research on the critical role of universal social policy in a development context, emphasizing the importance of social policy for production, reproduction, redistribution and protection.

In recent years, our research programmes, guided by the UNRISD 2021–2025 institutional strategy “Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract”, have focused on tackling the root causes and drivers of inequalities, helping to shape future social contracts that are more inclusive, ecologically sensitive and aligned with the fulfilment of all human rights. This work has sought to shed light on how high levels of inequality can hinder the necessary transformations for sustainable progress, looking specifically at the role of elites in sustainable development, the domestic financing of social policy interventions and evolving eco-social contracts. The Institute also advanced the discourse on gender equality—with a particular focus on intersectionality and the economy of care—on alternative economic approaches such as the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) and authentic sustainability reporting, and on more holistic and progressive understandings of just transitions and resilience in Africa.

# UNRISD at 60: Thought leader, agenda setter across the decades



## 1960s

Pioneering Social and Human Indicators of Development

## 1970s

Exploring the Social and Political Dynamics of Modernization

## 1980s

Promoting a Holistic and Multidisciplinary Approach to Social Development

## 1990s

Anticipating the Social Effects of Globalization

## 2000s

Taking Global Responsibility for Social Development

## 2010s

From Crisis and Uncertainty to the Promise of Transformative Change

## 2020s

Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract

→ [Explore the UNRISD timeline](#)

**#ImagineEquality: Unlocking the power of imagination to shape a better world**

**If we want a more just, fair and sustainable world, we must first imagine it.**

For six decades, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) has been challenging the status quo and introducing new, more equitable policy proposals. To celebrate the Institute’s 60th anniversary, in April 2023 we launched the #ImagineEquality campaign.

Grounded in UNRISD’s research legacy, which has consistently anticipated and addressed contemporary social issues, the campaign is a call to action, urging individuals to challenge norms, push boundaries and envision alternative paths. At its core is the belief that “If we want a more just, fair and sustainable world, we must first imagine it”.

Throughout the year, the campaign unfolded across various activities, each designed to engage, and inspire people to #ImagineEquality and reflect on new imaginaries of gender, climate, social and economic justice.

**“As an incubator of ideas, a staunch critique of orthodox views and a promoter of alternative thinking, UNRISD has always kept one eye on the scientific soundness of its research and another on the goal of influencing policy and paradigms.”**



**Azita Berar**  
Chair, UNRISD Board

Jan–Mar 2023

**The Anniversary Badge and Branding**

Brand identity assessment and campaign design

Apr–May 2023

**#ImagineEquality Campaign Launch**

Launch of the call for artists  
Launch of the digital campaign

Jun 2023

**The Stakeholder Event**

Stakeholder K-sharing event

1 Aug 2023

**UNRISD Official Birthday**

Illumination of Geneva’s Jet d’Eau in UNRISD’s colors

Oct 2023

**The Art Exhibition**

Vernissage of the art expo

## The #ImagineEquality campaign

The campaign leveraged the voices of people and partners as champions of change, inviting them to reflect on what a more just, fair and sustainable world could look like. They were encouraged to complete the sentence “Imagine a world where...” and share their reflections along with a compelling photo on their social media profiles using the hashtag #ImagineEquality, while also tagging @unrisd.

The campaign was further guided by the distinct visions of each programme, which were brought to life through impactful stories showcasing UNRISD’s role in turning these envisioned futures into tangible realities.

The campaign also featured over 20 champions for change made up of influential personalities from the UN—including Secretary-General António Guterres—government, academia, culture and sports to help us amplify the vision of equality.

As part of the campaign, on the occasion of UNRISD’s founding date, August 1, Geneva’s iconic Jet d’Eau fountain was illuminated with the campaign’s colours, symbolizing the 5 programmes. For the occasion we also launched a blog by Azita Berar, UNRISD Board Chair, reflecting on how the Institute has spent the last six decades developing a unique model of partnership and collaboration while underscoring alternative and innovative research and thinking on social policy.

→ [Read the blog](#)



**“Imagine a world where food, healthcare, water and sanitation, education, decent work and social security are not commodities for sale to those who can afford them, but basic human rights.”**

**António Guterres**  
Secretary-General of the United Nations



**“Imagine a world where women and men enjoy equal opportunities.”**

**Tatiana Valovaya**  
Director-General of the United Nations  
Office at Geneva



**“Imagine a world with decent work for all, where everyone has access to a good job, social protection, labour rights and social dialogue. This world is possible when governments, workers and employers work together. This is the way to social justice.”**

**Gilbert F. Houngbo**  
Director-General,  
International Labour Organization (ILO)



**“Imagine a world where our leaders are unafraid to tackle inequalities, to ensure no one is left behind in the fight to end AIDS and provide health for all.”**

**Winnie Byanyima**  
UNAIDS Executive Director



**“Imagine a world in which all people enjoy equitable and affordable access to the health services they need, not as a luxury, but as a human right.”**

**Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus**  
Director-General, WHO



**“Imagine a world where equal access to digital opportunities shapes an inclusive, safe, and sustainable future for all.”**

**Doreen Bogdan-Martin**  
Secretary-General, International  
Telecommunication Union (ITU)



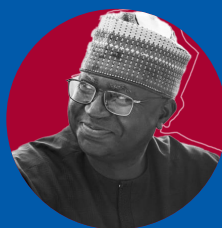
**“Imagine a world where every person, regardless of their background, has access to knowledge, empowering them to be good global citizens to make a positive impact on our world.”**

**Nikhil Seth**  
Executive Director, UNITAR



**“Imagine a world where climate justice is not just an aspiration but a reality, shaping a greener, fairer, and more sustainable planet for all.”**

**Gabriela Ramos**  
Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences,  
UNESCO



**“Imagine a world where all people enjoy equitable, affordable, safe access to sustainable digital infrastructure, tools and services, responsible AI and quality education and free of wars, conflicts, intolerance, hunger and peace for all, all the time!”**

**H.E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. KAH**  
Ambassador; Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission  
of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations Office  
and other international organizations in Geneva



**“Imagine a world where the promise of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is realized for all, and where the full guarantee of broader freedoms ensures a more peaceful, sustainable future for people and the planet.”**

**Volker Türk**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights



**“Imagine a world where people, in all their diversity, rise together in dignity through justice.”**

**Kumi Naidoo**  
Human rights and environmental justice activist



**“Imagine a world where everyone has access to healthy diets.”**

**Dominique Burgeon**  
Director of the FAO Liaison Office  
with the United Nations in Geneva



**“Imagine a world where each individual can aspire to realize their full potential .”**

**Ronny Turiaf**  
Junior NBA Ambassador and Founder of Maison Verv'eau Art  
Residency



**“Imagine a world where the pursuit of social progress and social cohesion, fighting inequalities and exclusions, are the only guide for political decisions and for economic choices and priorities.”**

**Azita Berar**  
Chair of UNRISD Board



**“Imagine a world where every single child knows their worth.”**

**Joyce DiDonato**  
Singer and Producer



**“Imagine a world where every human being enjoys sustainable prosperity and is free from want, free from fear and free to live in dignity; a world where minorities of any kind are safe; a world where diversity is seen as a strength.”**

**Ambassador Jürg Lauber**  
PR of Switzerland to the UN in Geneva



**“Imagine a world where you would love for others what you love for yourself.”**

**el Seed**  
Artist



**“Imagine a world where climate neutrality is a reality and where inclusive, equal access to clean energy and sustainable mobility is the new normal, on a global scale.”**

**Katja Dörner**  
Mayor of Bonn



**“Imagine a world where people aren't hated and discriminated against because of who they love or because they want to live authentically as themselves. A world where homophobia + transphobia don't exist.”**

**Nicole and Natalie of Nina Sky**  
Music artists



**“Imagine a world where the protection and the promotion of human dignity is at the heart of every public policy and the ultimate goal of every multilateral action.”**

**Ambassador Sabri Bachtobji**  
Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to  
the United Nations Office at Geneva

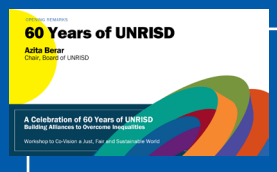
## The co-vision workshop—A celebration of 60 years of UNRISD: Building alliances to overcome inequalities

On 28 June, UNRISD convened partners, collaborators, guests and staff at the UN Office in Geneva and online for our annual stakeholder event. This year's gathering was held in celebration of the Institute's 60th anniversary, kicking off a series of activities honouring UNRISD's 60 years of fulfilling a unique role as the only United Nations agency devoted exclusively to research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues.

For the occasion, a new format was developed turning our traditional stakeholder event into a co-vision workshop, including interactive activities, working groups and a world café, with the aim to collectively envision a just, fair and sustainable world.

## Highlights

Relive highlights of the event. Watch the proceedings of the opening remarks and the panel discussion.



→ [Watch video](#)



→ [Watch video](#)

## Key takeaways

As part of the working group sessions, participants were tasked with identifying actionable steps to advance on gender, environmental, social and economic justice. Through discussions and a collaborative prioritization exercise, the top three recommendations emerged, reflecting the group's priorities and consensus. Below are the top-voted recommendations on:

### Gender justice

1. Bring research on gender and climate together.

2. Integrate cutting-edge gender research with political advocacy and lobbying processes.

3. Promote a dual-track agenda: women's rights and intersectionality.

### Environmental and climate justice

1. Focus and connect environmental and climate transition agendas with securing public goods such as access to health and energy as rights.

2. Economic diversification, fiscal space, trade, understanding of which progressive financial resources can be mobilized, and connect analysis of other sectors (fashion, mobility, etc.) to just transition.

3. Create a space for future thinking and ensure that our narratives do not encourage greenwashing and other such false narratives.

### Social justice

1. Engage voices at the grassroots level; build capacity; help communities envision their place in a sustainable world.

2. Invest in co-creation of policy-relevant research, enabling civil society to organize; place more focus on process rather than outcomes.

3. Engage in applied research; identify solutions that actually work in the field.

### Economic justice

1. Involve social and solidarity economy (SSE) stakeholders in the design and delivery of a new eco-social contract.

2. Research linkages between SSE and other approaches to economy (well-being, green, blue, etc.).

3. Communicate more widely what SSE is, what it offers, where it wants to go.

**“The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice”**

From 10–20 October 2023, we turned the UN Office at Geneva into a canvas for change. To celebrate the Institute’s 60th anniversary, we invited artists from around the world to create a unique and immersive experience that transcended borders and time. As people stepped into this transformative experience, they embarked on a journey guided by art and six decades of UNRISD’s pioneering research for social change. During this remarkable journey, visitors to the exhibit encountered 39 artists representing 23 countries from six regions that took them through time, from “where we come from” to “where we are” and “where we are going”.

In tandem, visitors were able to revisit some of the events that helped shape the past 60 years of UNRISD’s history. They explored current challenges in gender, climate, economic and social justice, and were transported into a visionary eco-social world founded on principles of equality and justice for both people and the planet. The inspiring catalogue showcasing the work of the 39 artists is a call to unlock the potential that resides in our collective imagination, reminding us that to build a more just world, we must first imagine it.

- [Watch the highlights of the exhibit’s opening](#)
- [Download the catalogue](#)

**The special awards**

These awards honored five artists whose works encapsulated the essence of five pivotal themes:



**“Imagine a world where art has the power to inspire social change.”**



**Karima Cherif**

Head of Communications and Outreach, UNRISD;  
Exhibit Curator

- **Social justice**
- **Economic justice**
- **Gender justice**
- **Environmental and climate justice**
- **A new eco-social world**



William Tagne Njepe  
Cameroon  
→ [See profile](#)



Otto Soria  
Argentina  
→ [See profile](#)



Alida Ymele Letchejie  
Cameroon  
→ [See profile](#)



Aksanti Bafunyempaka  
Uganda  
→ [See profile](#)



Lanto Garan  
Reunion Island, France  
→ [See profile](#)





# **Transformative Social Policy**

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**Promoting universal  
social policy as a human  
right and driving force for  
sustainable development**



# Transformative Social Policy

## Overview

UNRISD defines social policy as public interventions that guarantee adequate and secure living standards that enable all people to strive toward and develop their full potential. It comprises basic social services such as education and health, income transfers such as pensions, child benefits or social assistance, and labour market policies. In a developmental context, social policy plays a key role in economic production, social reproduction, redistribution of income and wealth, and protection against life and market risks.

What UNRISD calls transformative social policy (TSP)—human rights-based, entailing democratic decision making and working in tandem with economic policies—is essential to address the root causes and drivers of poverty, inequality and unsustainable policies and practices. It is also essential to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and support recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic in a way that is inclusive and sustainable for all.

The TSP programme is concerned with the role of social policies in three areas: sustainable and inclusive development; overcoming inequalities, poverty and social exclusion; and building toward a new eco-social contract that delivers universal social rights and environmental justice. Work in the programme focuses on analysing drivers and actors in social policy reforms and adopts an integrated approach regarding the financing of social policies.

The programme also examines institutional and political contexts, from local to global levels, and unpacks the role of policy makers, civil society and private sector actors—from elites to progressive alliances, social movements, international organizations and business actors.

## Objectives

- Promote an integrated approach to social policy grounded in norms of equity, solidarity, social and environmental justice, and fair and sustainable financing.
- Challenge the dominant residualist narrative on social policy and reassert the centrality of transformative social policy approaches in development strategies.
- Produce new evidence, data and analysis on the developmental and political dimensions of social policy.
- Advocate for progressive social policies and institutions as a means to achieve better social outcomes and deliver on national and global development goals and commitments.

## Our Team

**Katja Hujo**



Head of Bonn Office  
& Senior Research Coordinator

**Maggie Carter**



Senior Research Analyst

**Njavwa Mbao**

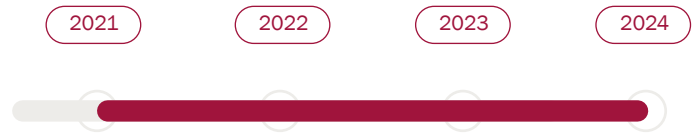


Research Intern  
(Jan–Jul 2023)

# At a glance

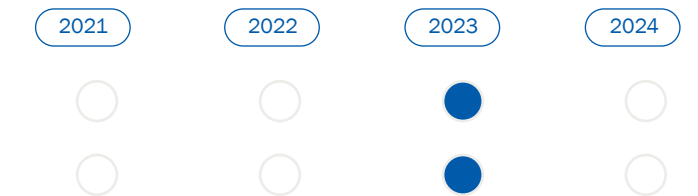
## Active projects

- Migration for Development and Equality (MIDEQ) Hub



## Institutional impact initiatives

- World Social Work Day
- Annual Policy Dialogue Club de Madrid

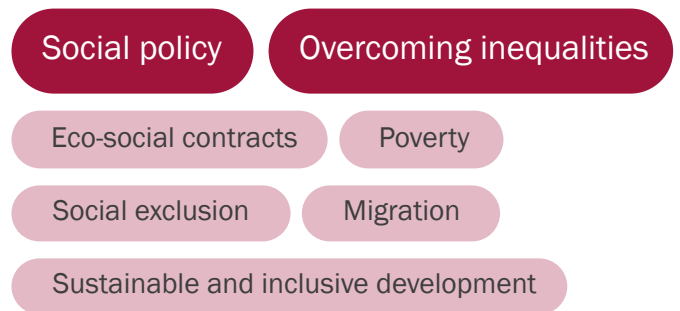


## Geographical focus



Global, Asia, Latin America, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa

## Thematic areas



## Donors



## Partners

Geneva Graduate Institute, MIDEQ Consortium, University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland—Social Work, Geneva (HETS-GE), University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland—Social Work, Fribourg, International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW)

# Migration for Development and Equality (MIDEQ) Hub

Key thematic area	Development, inequality, migration
Geographical focus	Asia, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, (countries: Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal, South Africa)
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	International organizations, policy makers, civil society, migrant organizations, migrants
Project duration	February 2019 – February 2024
Implementing and strategic partners	MIDEQ Consortium
Donors	UK Global Challenges Research Fund UKRI-GCRF (via Coventry University), additional support from UNRISD institutional funds

## Overview

South-South migration can reduce inequalities and contribute to development. However, this potential has yet to be fully realized. The Migration for Development and Equality (MIDEQ) hub works with a global network of partners in 12 countries in the global South, organized into six migration corridors to transform understanding of the relationships between migration, development and inequality. The project works to shift knowledge production on migration and its consequences toward the countries where most of the migration is taking place—engaging with contested concepts and definitions, decolonizing research processes, and generating new evidence and ideas. The overarching objective of the project is to translate knowledge and ideas into policies and practices that work to improve the lives of migrants, their families and the communities in which they live.

As a partner of the MIDEQ Hub, UNRISD's role is to mobilize its research networks and expertise in policy-relevant research on South-South migration, migration governance, inequality and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This role is operationalized through the following actions: contributing to research excellence, strengthening the research-policy nexus, and enhancing impact through communications and outreach.

## 2023 achievements and results

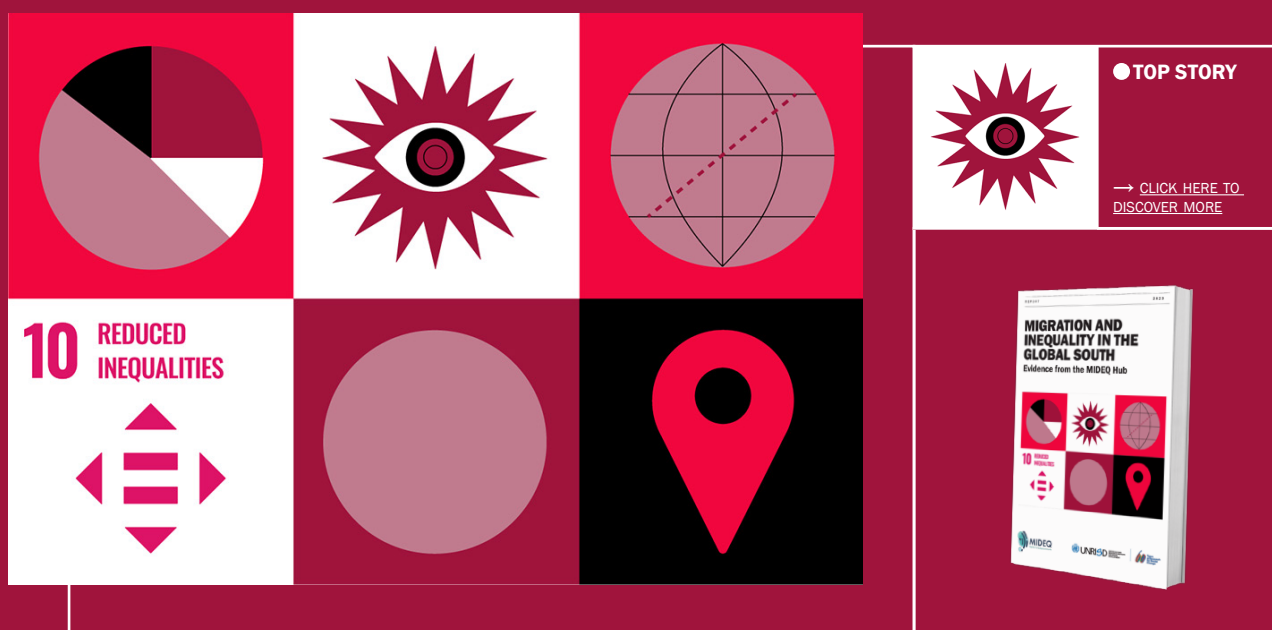
UNRISD coordinated the drafting and publication of a policy report summarizing key findings from the MIDEQ project with a focus on seven themes of core interest to migration policy makers and decision takers (see Spotlight Migration and Inequality in the Global South: Evidence from the MIDEQ Hub). The report was launched at the Geneva Policy Symposium on Migration and Inequality in the Global South, organized by UNRISD in collaboration with various MIDEQ international partners. Following

an opening session with representatives from each of the organizing partners, MIDEQ researchers presented their work during three thematic panels covering inequalities, gender, and racism and xenophobia. The policy symposium aided in the dissemination of MIDEQ research findings and amplified opportunities for policy impact by engaging with international organizations, decision makers and change advocates. Approximately 50 people attended the event in person at the Palais des Nations, and another 250 joined online.

Throughout the year, UNRISD contributed to research excellence by participating in Hub meetings, workshops and other events, and publications, providing feedback and guidance. The Institute also participated in MIDEQ's annual research symposium convened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 18–22 September, along with MIDEQ researchers and international partner organizations. The symposium focused on the research contributions of the project thus far, the impact of MIDEQ's work and the future of the project, setting the foundation for continued collaboration on these themes following the end of the project, including events, publications and joint research proposals.

UNRISD continued to work closely with the MIDEQ work package 1 (WP1) team on gender. Focusing on three migration corridors—China–Ghana, Haiti–Brazil and Nepal–Malaysia—WP1 works through a comparative, intersectional approach to consider gendered processes and outcomes of South-South migration, focusing on countries of origin and transnational social fields and a variety of economic sectors. In 2023, UNRISD advanced work on an article that will be published as part of a special issue with the *Journal on Ethnic and Migrant Studies* in 2025, coordinated by the gender work package. UNRISD also participated in a workshop in Manchester, United Kingdom, from 11–14 December, which brought together the special issue authors and provided policy-relevant feedback with the aim of increasing the issue's potential for policy impact.

# Migration and Inequality in the Global South: Evidence from the MIDEQ Hub



This report highlights the work of the Migration for Development and Equality (MIDEQ) hub, which unpacks the complex and multi-dimensional relationships between migration, development and inequality in the context of the global South. It presents findings from six migration “corridors” that link migrants’ countries of origin and their destination: Burkina Faso–Côte d’Ivoire; China–Ghana; Egypt–Jordan; Ethiopia–South Africa; Haiti–Brazil; and Nepal–Malaysia.

Organized around seven themes of core interest to migration policy makers and decision takers—gender, children, decision making, intermediaries, resource flows, access to justice and digital technologies—the report lays out new data and evidence that challenges the ways in which global North concepts have been applied to global South processes and socioeconomic structures, identifying differences and similarities in migration experiences and opportunities, as well as the myriad challenges that

migration can, and often does, bring. Its aim is to ensure that policy makers, programme specialists and donors have the understanding and evidence they need to harness the development potential of migration for individuals, households, communities and the countries of the global South.

The report identifies recommendations to improve the gendered outcomes of migration, protect and empower children who migrate or stay back, positively support migrants’ decision making, improve the service provisioning of intermediaries, facilitate resource flows associated with migration, guarantee access to justice for all migrants at all stages of the migration process, and provide migrants and their families with digital technologies that serve them best. Broadly, the findings suggest the need to address the structural and intersecting inequalities that shape migration patterns and outcomes, which are amplified in times of crises; design migration policies that are context-specific

and take into account the multiple dimensions of migration that go well beyond the economic; shift the largely negative migration narratives that limit the development potential of South–South migration; incorporate perspectives and knowledges from the global South to decentre and decolonize migration research, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary, flexible, and participatory approaches and methods; and centre human rights in migration governance globally.



The report was launched at the Geneva Policy Symposium on Migration and Inequality in the Global South on 12 October at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. Remarkably, it garnered 1,055 downloads in the final quarter of 2023 alone, securing its place among the top 3 most read publications for the year.

→ [Explore the report](#)

## Multimedia output



VIDEO • KEYNOTE SPEECH

[Addressing inequalities through migration in the Global South: An intersectional perspective](#)



VIDEO • SESSION 1

[Poverty and income inequalities](#)



VIDEO • SESSION 2

[Gender inequalities and migration](#)



VIDEO • SESSION 3

[Racism, xenophobia and migration narratives](#)

# World Social Work Day 2023

Key thematic area	Eco-social contract, SDGs, partnerships, social work
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Civil society, academia, policy makers, UN staff and leadership, social workers
Project duration	Annually since 2017
Implementing and strategic partners	International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW), School of Social Work, Fribourg (HETS-FR), School of Social Work, Geneva (HETS-GE)
Donors	Avenir Social, International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW), University of Applied Sciences Geneva (HES-SO Geneva)

## Overview

World Social Work Day (WSWD) has been celebrated around the globe since 1983. Celebrating the day in different locations worldwide aims to highlight the achievements of social work, raise the visibility of social work and its key role for the future of societies, and defend social justice and human rights. Since 2017, UNRISD has partnered with the Geneva and Fribourg Schools of Social Work, the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) and the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) to mark the day at the United Nations in Geneva.

## WSWD 2023: Respecting diversity through joint social action

WSWD 2023, celebrated on 15 March, focused on the theme “Respecting diversity through joint social action”. It was an occasion to celebrate the profession for promoting respect and defending diversity through the modalities of joint social action. This approach resonates strongly with the UN Charter and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is grounded in a culture of respect and support for diversity in all its aspects. Social work is one of the professions most equipped to facilitate the global aspiration of “unity in diversity”, looking beyond building tolerance to celebrating and supporting differences, understanding opposing positions, and leading the way toward an opening of possibilities, alternatives and innovation in ideas, policies and practices.

To raise awareness of the importance of diversity and how to promote it, WSWD 2023 aimed to engage in a reflection of our own representations of

diversity; expand our knowledge regarding diversity by paying attention to contextual differences in the histories and cultures of countries and their populations; and bring together perspectives from the global North and South on ways and methodologies to approach and value diversity in social work and international cooperation.


## 2023 achievements and results

WSWD 2023 was convened as a one-day online event that gathered 221 participants. The programme featured an opening and closing panel, a participatory exercise, two keynote speeches and a roundtable discussion on the topic, “Toward inclusive social contracts: Promoting migrant rights and diversity”. The keynote speeches by Professor Vishantie Sewpaul from South Africa and Professor Kristín Loftsdóttir from Iceland explored different perspectives on diversity grounded in their specific contexts. The roundtable discussion presented a range of perspectives of practitioners and activists, with panellists from ILO Geneva and UNHCR Zambia reflecting on their work, and a social worker from Geneva and a refugee from Afghanistan sharing their experiences and initiatives on empowering their communities, both in host countries and countries of origin.

A number of interventions throughout the day spoke to the vital role of self-reflection and bias recognition among social workers and the general public in promoting social justice and dismantling barriers. It presented perspectives from the global North and South on ways and methodologies to approach and value diversity in social work and international cooperation and emphasized the need for joint social action and respect for Indigenous wisdom and cultural understanding.

# At a Glance: World Social Work Day 2023

## Visual summary of WSWD 2023

**WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY AT THE UNITED NATIONS** 15 March 2023 10:00 - 15:00 CET 

**Respecting DIVERSITY through joint social action**

**Opening remarks & Participatory Activity**  
 Paul Ladd, Joel Gapano, Hilary Weaver, Annamaria Campanini, Kaitirina Kusari

**THE PEOPLE'S SUMMIT & CHARTER**

patchwork-quilt

thread of values holds diversity together

equitable sustainable

Social workers will build this world from the bottom up.

We build diversity together, inclusively

Indigenous knowledge

our collectiveness makes us stronger

own value system

7 Generations Principle

A WALK IN THE PARK

a bundle of arrows is stronger than a single one

recognise and acknowledge differences

self-reflection

privileges and marginalisation

everyone is different different backgrounds

**Co-building an eco-social world Towards cosmocentric consciousness**  
 Vishanthie Sewpaul

Profit above people

Crisis of values

Measurement and efficiency

Neutrality, causality

from radical/critical to emancipatory praxis

The divinity in me greets the divinity in you

divinity in humanity

Ethics before knowledge

Buddhism

this leaf is a manifestation of the cosmos

first systems thinker

Emancipatory social work

increase people's self-esteem, courage & conviction

Power of the pen

share your voice on platforms like social media

Power of one

Power of many

Power of now

Live not for the fruits of action but the action itself

Assumptions

enemy between our ears

ICELAND

migration history

joins EES 2001

migrants from Poland & Lithuania

Nordic exceptionalism

used to refute racism in the present

Moderation Anne Lavonchy

Reach wider and non-academic audience

**Racialisation**

Migration is portrayed as invasion

cultural differences become an issue

Hateful discourse in populism

Make racism visible

SOCIAL WORKERS

engage in advocacy

Narratives constructed and put into the future

not normalise abusive conditions

self-care

**Roundtable**

**Effective policies Labour market**

- educational training
- language courses
- integration help
- access health care & labour market
- don't push into informal jobs

when one worker leaves because of exclusion, it has consequences for others

mainstream vs targeted POLICIES that don't distinguish and create competition between groups

DIVERSITY

- micro individual
- meso organisational
- macro societal level

Bridge theory & practice

good examples

Afghan universities

community activities

keep partners informed and interested

Paint Gothenburg


Katja Hujo, Rory Truell, Jean-Felix Savory, Njawa Mbao

Let's keep on growing & learning together!

With financial support of AvenirSocial, HES, HES SO, HES VALAIS

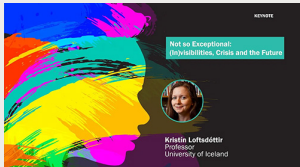
### Multimedia output

Think-piece: "Respecting Diversity through Joint Social Action: Insights from the 2023 World Social Work Day at the UN," by Njawa Mbao → [Read the think piece](#)



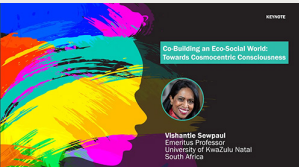
VIDEO

[Towards Inclusive Social Contracts: Promoting Migrant Rights and Diversity](#)




VIDEO

[Not So Exceptional: \(In\)Visibilities, Crisis and the Future by Kristín Loftsdóttir](#)



VIDEO

[Co-Building an Eco-Social World: Towards Cosmocentric Consciousness by Vishanthie Sewpaul](#)



VIDEO

["Let Us Bundle Our Arrows." Indigenous Reflection by Hilary Weaver](#)

22

# Partnership with the Club de Madrid Annual Policy Dialogue

Key thematic area	Social development, eco-social contract, fair fiscal contracts
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Policy makers, civil society, private sector, UN organizations, member states
Project duration	January – December 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	Club de Madrid, Club de Madrid members
Donors	Club de Madrid, additional support from UNRISD institutional funds

## Overview

Club de Madrid (CdM) is the world’s largest forum of democratic former presidents and prime ministers, who leverage their individual and collective leadership experience and global reach to strengthen inclusive democratic practice and improve the well-being of people around the world. As a non-partisan and international non-profit organization, it counts on the governance experience of more than 100 members from over 70 countries, along with a global network of advisors and partners across all sectors of society. CdM aims to stimulate dialogue and strengthen public policies and effective leadership through recommendations that tackle challenges such as inclusion, sustainable development and peace at the national and international levels.

In early 2023, UNRISD entered into a collaboration agreement with CdM to contribute to its Annual Policy Dialogue (APD) 2023. The partnership’s objectives were to mobilize alliances at national and global levels to promote social development, just transitions and democratic governance in view of advancing global agendas such as the SDGs, the Paris Climate Agreement and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and identify strategic actions to contribute to co-creating and actioning the eco-social contract, particularly at the multilateral level in the lead-up to the second World Social Summit in 2025. Three working groups were established, with UNRISD leading Working Group 1 on “System Change for Economic Transformation,” comprising 23 diverse members, including CdM members, academics and experts from civil society and the UN.

## 2023 achievements and results

Within the theme of Working Group 1, UNRISD proposed to work on the topic of fair fiscal contracts and elaborated a first guidance note identifying key issues and questions the Working Group should address. Two online meetings were convened, the first one (5 July) to discuss the guidance note and the second one (6 September) to discuss the first paper draft. Participants shared written inputs and publications throughout the process. On this basis, UNRISD drafted a position paper on “System Change for Economic Transformation: Toward Fair Fiscal Contracts”.

Key findings and recommendations from the paper were presented at the Policy Lab “Rethinking Social Development for People and Planet” for the Network of Young Decision Makers on 4 September; at a side event at the United Nations General Assembly on 22 September, convened online and in-person at the Baha’i International Community Centre; at the CdM Virtual Action Lab on 6 November; and at the in-person APD meeting in Brasília, Brazil on 13–14 November.

UNRISD introduced the vision of a new eco-social contract to the CdM community at ADP and helped formulate actionable recommendations for fair fiscal contracts at national and global levels. The final recommendations document was submitted to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres by CdM Honorary Member and ninth Director of the ILO, Juan Somavía.

## System Change for Economic Transformation: Toward Fair Fiscal Contracts



Multiple interconnected crises and unravelling social contracts have created a challenging context for social development, democratic governance and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This paper is the key output of the UNRISD-led Working Group 1 on “System Change for Economic Transformation”, convened by the Club de Madrid as part of its 2023 Annual Policy Dialogue. It outlines pathways toward fair fiscal contracts, defined as fiscal and financial arrangements that raise sufficient resources for climate action and SDG implementation and fairly distribute the financing burden within and between countries. Four key policy recommendations would support this system change for economic transformation:

### 1. Foster an enabling environment for system change

Labour-intensive, sustainable and inclusive growth strategies can be implemented for green structural change that can lead to higher levels of formalization, household income and equality, with positive impacts on tax receipts. States need to invest in tax capacity to implement reforms and enforce compliance with tax laws and regulations, especially by high-income earners and big corporations, including multinational corporations. Transparent and accountable institutions and inclusive political processes build trust and improve tax morale, reinforced by a public discourse that emphasizes shared interests, values, responsibilities and benefits, moving away from harmful polarization.

### 2. Make domestic resource mobilization equitable, effective and sustainable

Prioritize progressive corporate and personal income taxes, inheritance, property and land taxes, and levies on capital income such as interest, dividends and capital gains, as well as windfall taxes on excess profits and taxes on luxury carbon emissions. Tax capacity can be strengthened through better enforcement of taxes on wealthy individuals and large corporations, for example, through the creation of asset registries, implementation of unitary taxation of multinational companies and country-by-country reporting, reduction of tax exemptions and fiscal subsidies, better taxation in the mining sector, enforcement of VAT and customs duties, and renegotiation of bilateral tax treaties. At the same time, tax policy and incentives should be aligned with sustainable development and national goals, and tax instruments tailored to the national context and administrative capacity.

### 3. Create fair global fiscal and financial pacts


Debt relief should be promoted immediately through debt reduction and cancellation (including mechanisms for commercial bank debt), and Official Development Assistance (ODA) should reach the 0.7 goal, tightening classifications of what counts as ODA to make sure it supports national development strategies in the global South. Other instruments include increasing the minimum tax threshold for large multinational corporations to 25 percent, implementing new transborder tax instruments for eco-social transformation and mobilizing new affordable financing for low- and middle-income countries. The role of the UN should be strengthened in the international financial architecture by creating a UN tax body, a UN framework convention on international tax cooperation and a UN high-level expert group on fiscal policy.

### 4. Deliver on eco-social contracts through public investment and transformative policies

Investing in universal, rights-based social policy, including social protection, social services and inclusive labour market policies, is a critical priority based on strengthening fundamental principles of a transformative social policy: human rights, social security standards, universalism, public provisioning, gender justice and equitable financing. We must move beyond sectoral approaches and promote integrated policies such as care systems and eco-social policies. Spaces for meaningful and informed citizen participation and public debate about new eco-social contracts should be created by promoting democratic governance, direct citizen engagement, tax dialogues, taxpayer information and education.

### Resources

 Event: *Annual Policy Dialogue (APD) 2023—Rethinking Social Development for People and Planet*

 Position Paper: *System Change for Economic Transformation: Toward Fair Fiscal Contracts* (published in early 2024)

## Other Programme Activities

Throughout the course of 2023, the TSP programme also engaged in various research-related activities. It continued to play a leading role in the outreach and dissemination of the UNRISD flagship report 2022. The programme also provided expert advisory support and fostered new research collaborations.

### Socialprotection.org finds a new home in UNRISD

Established as an independent knowledge-sharing platform in December 2015, [socialprotection.org](https://socialprotection.org) will transition to a new home under the auspices of UNRISD. This strategic shift, set to take effect in 2024, aims to bolster the platform's impact and longevity, ensure its continued efficacy in driving collaboration, facilitate learning, and disseminate crucial insights within the global social protection community.



socialprotection.org

Throughout 2023, consultations and planning sessions unfolded involving key stakeholders, including former and current platform funders DFAT, USAID and GIZ, as well as previous host UNDP Brazil, SPIAC-B and other strategic partners. With over 20 meetings convened, including face-to-face gatherings in Brazil, the groundwork was laid in 2023 for a seamless transition, guaranteeing the platform's unwavering commitment to the platform's neutrality, financial sustainability and effectiveness in serving the international social protection community with high-quality knowledge products, knowledge sharing and learning activities for years to come.

### UNRISD flagship report 2022: Outreach and dissemination

The launch of the UNRISD flagship report, *Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract*, in October 2022 at the UN in Geneva set the stage for a series of outreach activities aimed at disseminating its key findings and fostering collaborations and engagement to advance its proposal for a new eco-social contract. These efforts took various forms, ranging from standalone launch events such as the Berlin Dialogue, co-hosted with Robert Bosch Stiftung, to keynote presentations, such as the report's presentation at the SDG Bergen conference in Norway. A presentation made at a side event at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York, alongside participation in various webinars and briefing sessions, further amplified the report's reach and influence, leading the report to remain the top-downloaded publication in 2023, with 5,305 views.



Beyond dissemination, the report also played a pivotal role in informing the work of collaborative initiatives like the Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract and various activities of the Bonn programme (see Spotlight under Bonn section). Noteworthy collaborations include engagement with the CdM Annual Policy Dialogue (see Other Activities) as well as the growing uptake of the report by influential

civil society organizations such as Human Rights Watch, Christian Aid and the Green Economy Coalition (GEC), progressively influencing the global discourse. The report also informed capacity-building activities of the Bonn office, feeding into the design of a four-day online training course titled “The Crises of Inequality” and the formulation of a toolkit of guidelines for reducing inequality in development policy and practice (see p. 68).

The report’s impact extended into the production of a number of publications and research-derived products, including videos, podcasts, blogs, briefs and articles. Highlights include two podcasts produced by the UNOG Library, an article published in the German journal *Weitwinkel*, and four new think pieces for an UNRISD series on new eco-social contracts. Additionally, the translation of the flagship overview and policy brief into French, Spanish and German helped broaden its reach and accessibility.



Lastly, the report was the guiding force behind the Institute’s 60th anniversary campaign, with the production of a podcast series designed around the seven principles of eco-social contracts laid out in the report, underscoring the enduring significance of the report’s insights and the need for new eco-social contracts to address contemporary challenges effectively (see box Principles for Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract on p. 82).

### ESRC-funded project “Transnational elite communities and the reproduction of inequalities”

This project marks a new collaborative endeavour for UNRISD in 2023. Started in late May 2023 and running for a period of 24 months, the project is hosted by the Department of Social Policy and Intervention at the University of Oxford under the leadership of Dr. Katie Higgins and conducted in partnership with the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS) at the University of Witwatersrand with Dr. Ujithra Ponniah as co-investigator. It focuses on studying the wealthiest 1 percent of the global population and their role in perpetuating economic inequalities worldwide. By examining three prominent international business organizations and their members, the research seeks to understand how these elites create and sustain their wealth, as well as the mechanisms through which they reinforce their positions of privilege. The study will take place in Delhi, Johannesburg and London, analysing elite formations and transnational connections within these urban contexts. Ultimately, the findings will inform strategies for civil society to address wealth inequalities and hold corporations accountable for their role in perpetuating global inequities.

UNRISD is a member of the project’s advisory board, with three main objectives: (i) providing guidance to strengthen the project’s policy relevance; (ii) informing the project and its networks on UNRISD’s relevant research findings; and (iii) co-organizing an interim workshop in Johannesburg at SCIS in February 2025. This workshop, which will feature a public keynote and panel discussion, aims to engage policy makers, civil society practitioners and academics in discussions about global elite networks and their implications for policy.

### UNU-IIGH Expert Group Meeting on the Accountability of Powerful Private Actors in Global Health, Oxford, 8–10 November 2023

The United Nations University International Institute of Global Health (UNU-IIGH) has identified harmful power asymmetries in global health governance and a lack of effective accountability mechanisms as central barriers to achieving health equity, global solidarity and effective international cooperation. However, powerful private actors tend to be neglected in

conversations about global health governance. Moreover, under conditions of neoliberal globalization over the past three decades, private actors, including transnational corporations, private foundations, private financial institutions and private consulting firms, among others, have accrued large amounts of power and now wield considerable influence over governments, IGOs and civil society. The Expert Group Meeting (EGM) sought to identify existing evidence and research gaps and propose actions and mechanisms by which over-concentrated power in private hands may be redistributed as a means of improving global health governance (with respect to effectiveness, efficiency and equity) and reducing accountability deficits in global health governance.

UNRISD prepared a briefing note and participated in this EGM (online), in view of contributing to a working paper series and eventually in a larger research programme UNU-IIGH is developing over the coming months. Current partners include UN agencies (WHO, UNICEF, UNRISD), universities (University of Oslo, Nairobi, Warwick, Bath, Glasgow, Sussex, Yale, Adelaide, MA Amherst, Australia), and NGOs and experts (TJN, Oxfam, South Centre, AI, GPF, PODER, EQUINET).

### **Who cares in peacebuilding? Building sustainable peace and advancing gender equality through support for peacebuilders with caring responsibilities**

In 2023, UNRISD engaged in another advisory endeavor by supporting a research and advocacy initiative led by Monash University, Australia, on peacebuilders with care responsibilities. UNRISD's contribution involved aiding the development of a concept note and reviewing survey questions on understanding the impact of caring responsibilities on individuals within the peacebuilding sector, and the subsequent impact on peacebuilding practices, priorities and outcomes. The collaborative effort involved experts from various institutions including Saferworld, DFAT, Swisspeace, IPI, UN Women, UNDPO, University of Warwick, RMIT University, UN University, Monash University, University of Sydney and KAIPTC, among others. The overarching goal was to generate discourse around the intersection of peacebuilding and care work, raising awareness of the harms that can arise when peacebuilding practitioners with caring responsibilities lack adequate support.

The results of the survey will inform a report aimed at raising awareness, provoking further discussion and bringing about change in the sector to better support peacebuilding personnel in their caring responsibilities. In doing so, it is hoped that this research will help to advance more effective peacebuilding and promote meaningful participation of women.

 [Read the concept note](#)





# **Alternative Economies for Transformation**

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**Building economic  
alternatives for an  
egalitarian and  
sustainable future**



# Alternative Economies for Transformation

## Overview

The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs encapsulate a hopeful consensus on the vision for a sustainable future. But this vision will not be realized without critical, well-founded alternatives to ideas, institutions and actions that lend credibility to dominant economic ideologies, development approaches and models that put profit maximization over purpose, people and the planet. In this context, an increasing number of policy makers and development stakeholders around the world have expressed interest in new and innovative thinking, institutions, policies and practices that promote socially and environmentally sustainable production, exchange and consumption of goods and services, from the global and macro to the local and micro.

The Alternative Economies for Transformation programme answers the urgent call for rigorous research, evidence, analysis, models and tools that advance the search for more sustainable, egalitarian and ecologically sound futures. Critically, the programme considers the underlying norms and values, policy implications, and possibilities for progressive politics and collective action to push forward an economic agenda to reduce inequalities, build toward a new eco-social contract and promote sustainable development on multiple fronts.

## Objectives

- Shape international development discourse and practices that challenge the status quo on economic systems.
- Stimulate and drive meaningful transformation of economic systems.
- Build consensus around alternative socioeconomic relations and activities as a catalyst for creating a sustainable future.
- Establish alternative political, economic, and social models and approaches that are equitable and environmentally conscious.

## Our Team

**Ilcheong Yi**



Senior Research  
Coordinator

**Zhen Lee**



Research Analyst

**Bao Nguyen**



Research Intern  
(Jul-Oct 2023)

**May Myat Thwe**

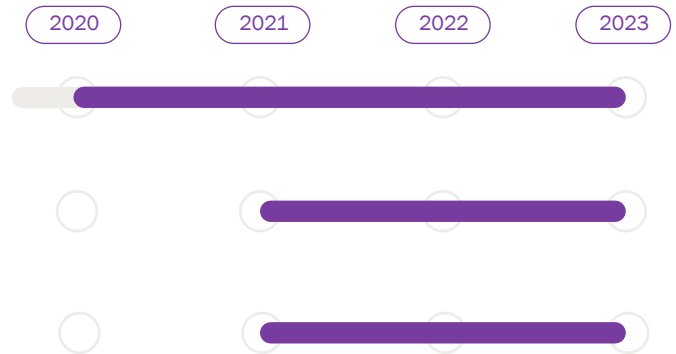


Research Intern  
(Jul-Nov 2023)

# At a glance

## Active projects

- Sustainable Development Performance Indicators
- Social and Solidarity Economy
- DEEPEN: The Development-Environment-Peace Nexus in Borders and Borderlands<sup>1</sup>



## Geographical focus



Global, borders and borderlands, fragile and conflict affected countries, low-income countries

## Thematic areas

Economic and social development

Environment and peace

Household debt

Inequality

Markets, business and technology

Measurement and indicators

Public policy

Social and solidarity economy

## Donors



**CSES** | Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies

**CCRS** | Credit Counseling & Recovery Service



**KOICA**  
Korea International Cooperation Agency

현대차  
**정몽구 재단**  
Chung Mong-Koo Foundation

## Partners

Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations (ASD), IOM Guinea Office, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), r3.0, UNCTAD, UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre, UNDP Sudan Office, UNEP Geneva Office, UNESCO Cambodia Office, UN Mine Action Service (UN MAS), UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy, Ilmin International Relations Institute (IIRI), WFP Guinea Office, Hankyoreh Newspaper, Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), UNEP FI, UNCTAD, UN Statistics Division, UNDP, UN Global Compact

<sup>1</sup> Original programme timeline closed in December 2022, but follow-up activities were extended into 2023.

# DEEPEN: The Development-Environment-Peace Nexus in Borders and Borderlands

Key thematic area	Economic and social development, environment and peace
Geographical focus	Borders and borderlands, fragile and conflict-affected countries, low-income countries
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Bilateral and multilateral agencies, policy decision-makers and practitioners
Project duration	May 2021 – December 2023 <sup>2</sup>
Implementing and strategic partners	IOM Guinea Office, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), UNDP Africa Borderlands Centre, UNDP Sudan Office, UNEP Geneva Office, UNESCO Cambodia Office, UN Mine Action Service (UN MAS), WFP Guinea Office
Donors	Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)

## Overview

The number of people who cross borders due to climate change, environmental degradation and natural disasters is growing in parallel with the increasing number of countries building walls and securing borders to prevent the movement of people. While borderlands are often places located in the orbit of national and transnational networks of travel, trade, migration, knowledge exchange and political alliances, they can also be sites of economic and ecological prosperity, social inclusion and peace. Most people living near borders or in borderland areas today, however, are at much greater risk of being left behind by development processes.

In collaboration with key regional stakeholders, UNRISD initiated the project “DEEPEN: The Development-Environment-Peace Nexus in Borders and Borderlands” (May 2021 – December 2023) to examine integrated approach-based projects in four borderland areas: Darfur, Sudan; the Great Lakes Region in East Africa; the Myanmar–China border; and Mekong Delta countries in Asia. From this examination, the project aims to identify lessons and findings from strategic institutions, policies and actors contributing to transforming borders from places of antagonism, exclusion and environmental destruction to places of cooperation, inclusion and ecological integrity, ultimately leading to long-term peace. The specific objectives of the project are to: deepen understanding and enrich discussions concerning the dynamics and synergies between development, environment and peace in fragile and conflict-affected countries and borderlands; facilitate the exchange and co-production of knowledge and experiences of projects and programmes between multilateral and bilateral agencies; and strengthen the capacity of multilateral and bilateral agencies to introduce integrated and transformative approaches to projects and programmes.

## 2023 achievements and results

To enhance the impact of the project, which successfully concluded the production of its outputs in 2022—including four comprehensive case studies and guidelines on integrated development approaches in borderlands across Myanmar, the Mekong Region (specifically Lao PDR and Cambodia), Darfur and Zone 3 of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region—UNRISD undertook two significant initiatives to advance the implementation of recommendations in Sudan.

Collaborating closely with the UNDP Sudan Office, UNRISD formulated a pilot project proposal titled “Integrated Area-Based Project: Strengthening Livelihood Security for Peace and Recovery in Darfur” with a budget of USD 4,600,000 spread over three years. This proposal was crafted to operationalize the guidelines on integrated approaches within borderlands by field-testing its theories, concepts and models through the design and implementation of a pilot project in Darfur, Sudan. Unfortunately, despite acceptance by KOICA, the proposal could not be implemented due to the outbreak of civil conflict in Sudan in April 2023.

In response to a request from the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea, UNRISD co-hosted a workshop titled “The Integrated Approach to Fragile and Conflict Affected Countries” with the UNDP Geneva Office on 22 November 2023. With over 40 participants from permanent missions, NGOs and UN agencies, the workshop provided a space for enriching dialogue among Geneva-based international organizations and UN agencies to explore how integrated approach-based projects (IABPs) can effectively contribute to assisting fragile and conflict-affected countries move toward peace and stability.

<sup>2</sup> Original programme timeline closed in December 2022, but follow-up activities were extended in 2023.

## PROJECT

# Sustainable Development Performance Indicators (SDPI)

Key thematic area	Markets, business and technology, measurement and indicators
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Academics, civil society organizations, for-profit enterprises (FPEs), policy makers, social investors, social and solidarity economy (SSE) entities, standard-setters
Project duration	September 2018 - December 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	r3.0, UNCTAD, UNEP FI, UN Global Compact, UNDP, FAO, UN Statistics Division
Donors	Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies (CSES)

## Overview

Corporate sustainability measurement and reporting has matured in recent decades as a field and practice due to adaptations and innovations that clarify principles; enhance data reliability, comparability and relevance; and address gaps related to particular issues such as human rights, women's economic empowerment, climate change, and responsible finance and investment. At the same time, alternatives to the corporate business model have emerged, with social and solidarity economy (SSE) enterprises and organizations heralded for their potential for inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. These developments have unfolded in dialogue with the 2030 Agenda's transformative vision to not only minimize the social and environmental costs of growth but also address its economic dimensions.

Noting the links and overlaps, UNRISD's Sustainable Development Performance Indicators (SDPI) project brings coherence and measurability to the notion of sustainability at the enterprise level, whether a large firm or SSE enterprise and organization. The project responds to the shortcomings in current measurement approaches such as the environmental, societal and governance (ESG) framework by introducing trend analysis, contextualization and potential for systemic transformation as key dimensions of sustainability performance. The objectives of the project are to: assess the adequacy of existing methods and systems for gauging the contribution of enterprises to achieving the SDGs; expand the scope of sustainability measurement, disclosure and

reporting for SSE entities and for-profit enterprises; and identify and test a set of SDPIs that can address twenty-first century challenges.

## 2023 achievements and results

The year 2023 marked a significant milestone for UNRISD with the launch of the Sustainable Development Performance Indicators (SDPI) Online Platform in November. This achievement is the result of over four years of meticulous development and testing. Building upon the success of the beta launch in 2022, this platform represents a user-friendly tool tailored for assessing the progress of both for-profit enterprises and SSE organizations toward global sustainability goals.

In 2023, UNRISD dedicated substantial resources toward promoting and disseminating the SDPI Platform through a diverse array of events, workshops, webinars and other outreach activities. A notable highlight was the collaborative webinar organized alongside Social Economy Europe (SEE) and the American Sustainable Business Network (ASBN) in May, which served as a platform to introduce SDPI and launch the "Own the Metrics" campaign. Additionally, UNRISD actively promoted the use of SDPIs to cooperatives and other SSE entities at the Global Innovation Coop Summit in Montreal, Canada, fostering dialogue and engagement on sustainable development initiatives.

Moreover, UNRISD forged strategic collaborations with impact investors, including money:care



and Noble Profit, guiding them in integrating SDPI into their core assessment frameworks. The adoption of SDPI by money:care garnered recognition at the prestigious 14th Hankyoreh Asia Future Forum in Seoul, Republic of Korea, underscoring its efficacy in facilitating informed investment decisions. Furthermore, Noble Profit reaffirmed its commitment to incorporate SDPI into its platform, signalling a paradigm shift toward incorporating ESG factors into investment strategies.

UNRISD also engaged with news media and journalists, leveraging their influence to promote awareness of the project/platform and its implications for sustainability reporting. Over the course of the reporting period, more than 30 news articles centred around ESG issues featured SDPI, amplifying its reach and relevance within the global discourse. Notably, UNRISD collaborated with Hankyoreh Newspaper in the Republic of Korea to publish a series of articles highlighting the efficacy of the indicators in assessing the sustainability performance of leading technology companies.

Recognizing the importance of localized resources, UNRISD facilitated the translation and dissemination of the projects foundational materials to cater to diverse linguistic and cultural contexts. BAUM eV, a prominent German business network, published a German translation of the Authentic Sustainability Assessment, expanding accessibility to key stakeholders within the German-speaking community. Similarly, the Japanese



Business Network translated and published excerpts of the manual, facilitating comprehension and uptake among Japanese audiences.

The successful launch and widespread adoption of the SDPI Online Platform underscore our commitment to empowering enterprises and organizations to measure and enhance their sustainability performance effectively. Looking ahead, UNRISD remains steadfast in its mission to drive social change and catalyse collective action toward a more sustainable and inclusive future for all.

# Launch of the SDPI Online Platform: Redefining Sustainable Development Reporting



**SDPI**  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS

● TOP STORY

→ [CLICK HERE TO  
DISCOVER MORE](#)

With a set of indicators that look at areas of business performance associated with equality, distributive justice, use of economic power and influence, and consumption of natural resources, the UNRISD project on Sustainable Development Performance Indicators (SDPI), launched in 2022, aims to help economic entities gauge whether their operations are consistent with the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Platform development

Following the successful beta launch in late 2022, where 17 indicators were initially introduced, UNRISD finalized the formulation of 44 new indicators in 2023. This development phase was informed by invaluable feedback from beta testers, ensuring that the platform's final iteration was optimized for user experience and effectiveness. Noteworthy among the added indicators is the "Water Use" metric, utilizing advanced hydrological models and satellite imagery to evaluate water sustainability practices.

## Key features

Easy to use and free to access, the new SDPI Online Platform offers users the ability to:

- Measure sustainability authentically with a comprehensive toolkit of 61 performance-based indicators that assess performance against sustainability thresholds, tailored for businesses of all sizes and types.
- Automate and reduce the reporting burden so that organizations can focus on implementation and making a difference where it matters most. No special skills are required; users only need to input data and the platform will automatically generate a customized, comprehensive report.
- Build brand credibility and trust by showcasing real-world positive outcomes guiding users and organizations toward eco-conscious success and a world where ESG excellence meets true impact.



## Impact and implications

UNRISD's work on SDPI has garnered strong interest from a variety of stakeholders during the past year. As of December 2023, more than 850 users have registered to the platform, and more economic entities have started adopting SDPI framework and methodologies to measure their sustainability efforts.

Partners and local institutions across the globe have also shown increased interest and recognition of SDPI's potential to drive positive change, actively disseminating the work of SDPI in their own local and regional contexts. Notably, the project's donor, the Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies (CSES), joined UNRISD as a co-manager, further strengthening the platform's reach and impact. Moreover, a series of training activities have been launched by our partners from r3.0, conducting over 8 trainings and reaching over 100 trainees in 2023.

The launch of the SDPI Online Platform represents a significant step forward in redefining sustainable development reporting. By combining user-friendly features with robust data analysis, the SDPI platform empowers both for-profit enterprises and SSE organizations to make informed decisions, track progress, and ultimately contribute to a more equitable and environmentally responsible world.

→ [Watch the platform's introductory video](#)

## PROJECT

# Social and Solidarity Economy

Key thematic area	Social and solidarity economy
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Academics, practitioners, policy makers
Project duration	April 2021 – December 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy
Donors	Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

## Overview

The social and solidarity economy (SSE) encompasses enterprises, organizations and other entities that are engaged in economic, social and environmental activities to serve collective interest based on principles consistent with caring for people and the planet in addition to equality and fairness, interdependence, self-governance, transparency and accountability, and the attainment of decent work and livelihoods. For more than two decades, a growing global movement has been advocating for SSE as a viable alternative socioeconomic approach to address current sustainable development challenges.

Despite the growing amount of academic and policy-oriented research related to SSE, which accounts for the increased recognition of SSE's transformative potential, it remains a relatively new concept for policy makers in many parts of the world. There is not yet a source containing a comprehensive catalogue of topics related to SSE. In collaboration with the UNTFSSSE, this project aims to meet demands from policy makers and practitioners for high-quality knowledge and information on SSE and its related concepts and practices. It aims to provide them with a useful and comprehensive reference tool to gain general knowledge and guidance on SSE.

The objectives of the project are to: enrich discussions on various aspects of SSE; contribute to raising awareness of SSE and its contributions to sustainable development; and make comprehensive knowledge and information available to wider audiences.

## 2023 achievements and results

Expanding upon the SSE Encyclopedia project initiated between April 2021 and March 2023, UNRISD has extended its commitment and

active engagement in advancing the discourse on SSE and within the UNTFSSSE throughout the current year. Notably, during this period, UNRISD published a working paper analysing the background and implications for the International Labour Organization's landmark Resolution Promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy for Sustainable Development (Resolution A/77/L.60). The working paper laid the groundwork for the UN General Assembly negotiations for the adoption of the resolution which officially defines and acknowledges the potential of SSE for sustainable development (see Box below).

To continue promoting SSE knowledge and fostering widespread accessibility and understanding in 2023, UNRISD and Edward Elgar Publishing co-hosted virtual book presentations and an interview-style podcast series titled "SSE Essentials" featuring authors of 11 SSE Encyclopedia entries, which will be officially launched in January 2024. Published in 2022, the SSE Encyclopedia is a comprehensive reference text consisting of 57 entries written by leading experts that explore how the SSE plays a significant role in creating and developing economic activities in alternative ways. In collaboration with UNTFSSSE, UNRISD also championed SSE research by launching the 2023 Ana María O'Neill Award at three internationally renowned conferences in the Republic of Korea, Belgium and Germany.

In 2023, UNRISD spearheaded the development of the UNTFSSSE repository by systematically archiving and analysing SSE-related materials produced within the UN system, preserving and sharing valuable SSE knowledge. UNRISD led the drafting of the UNTFSSSE governance structure and constitution, laying the groundwork for a robust and representative body that will play a key role editing the 2024 SG's report on SSE.



## UNRISD's journey toward the UN General Assembly Resolution on the SSE

For more than a decade, UNRISD has pioneered research on SSE and played a pivotal knowledge production-and-sharing role to support work in the UN system and beyond. These efforts by UNRISD, UN agencies, member states and SSE advocates culminated on 18 April 2023 with the adoption of ILO's landmark Resolution Promoting the Social and Solidarity Economy for Sustainable Development (Resolution A/77/L.60) at the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The resolution marks the beginning of a new phase of UNRISD's research on SSE and its promotion of economies and societies that are conducive to sustainable development. As a founder and key agency implementing the Knowledge Hub of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy, UNRISD will continue shaping SSE knowledge and discourse to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

→ [Read the full impact story](#)

## PROJECT

# Debt Management and Credit Counselling: Scoping Study

Key thematic area	Household debt, inequality, public policy
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Government agencies and civil society organizations addressing the issues directly associated with debt management and credit counselling, governments planning to establish debt management and credit counselling services at the national or sub-national level
Project duration	February 2022 – December 2023 <sup>3</sup>
Implementing and strategic partners	Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations (ASD)
Donors	Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations, Credit Counselling and Recovery Service

## Overview

Personal and household debt have risen dramatically across the world since the 1980s. At the same time, policy responses have tended toward individual responsibility despite a host of factors pointing to systemic and structural factors. These include increased access to, and use of, varying types of consumer credit, an associated increase in household over-indebtedness and arrears in the wake of the global financial crisis, and persistently high levels of poverty, deprivation and financial stress—creating stresses on delicately balanced household budgets, particularly those at the margins of economies. While this experience has not been homogenous across countries, over-indebtedness has come amid the retreat or absence of the welfare state but has been overlooked in research in both developed and developing countries.

To address this gap, UNRISD launched a new scoping study on policies to protect people and households from over-indebtedness. The inquiry provides an initial mapping of a system that includes: models of independent financial advice and debt counselling; the effectiveness, if known, of such initiatives in preventing and resolving household financial difficulty; and interactions between government and non-government institutions in terms of structure, funding and legislation. Depending on the outcomes of the mapping, the inquiry may develop into a full research project in the future, paying particular attention to the role of the state in protecting people and households from over-indebtedness.

The specific objectives of the inquiry are to: deepen understanding and enrich discussions about financial advice, debt counselling and debt management in the twenty-first century social policy and welfare state debates; strengthen the capacity of governments to design and implement policies to manage household debts; and contribute to developing a new UNRISD research project on the blind spots of welfare state research in developed and developing countries.

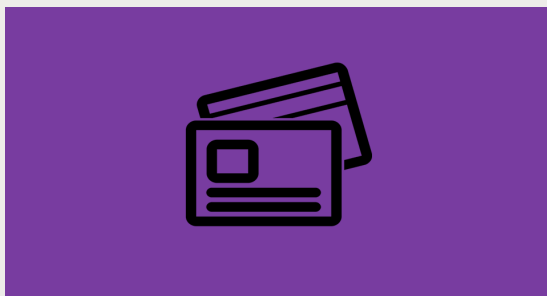
## 2023 achievements and results

In 2022, the project focused on investigating household debt management practices across several countries, analysing the efficacy of debt counselling interventions and their broader impacts on individuals, households and socioeconomic dynamics. The culmination of the research resulted in the production of three scoping papers on the practices of household debt management in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Australia and the United States.

In January 2023, the three papers were published and a fourth working paper looking at developing countries in Asia was developed. The paper explores programmes that offer assistance and guidance to those facing financial difficulties in the emerging economies of Southeast Asia, specifically in Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia. It will be released in April 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Original programme timeline closed in December 2022, but follow-up activities were extended into 2023.

### Scoping Papers: Household Debt Management Practices in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Australia and the United States



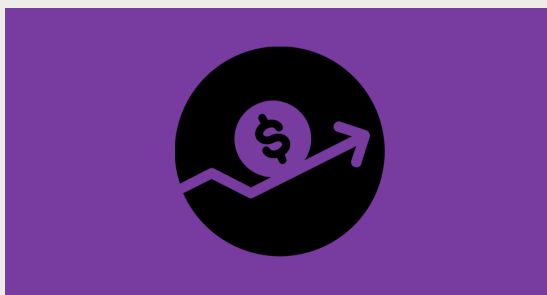
PAPER

[Australian Money Advice and Debt Management System](#)



PAPER

[Credit Counselling and Debt Management Services in the United States](#)



PAPER

[Toward Good Practice: A Review of Money Advice Services and Debt Management Systems in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France and Germany](#)

## Other activities

### Advanced Programme on Human Rights and Sustainable Development

The Advanced Programme on Human Rights and Sustainable Development (APOHS) is a new training programme created by UNRISD, Ilmin International Relation Institute (IIRI) and Chung Mong-Koo (CMK) Foundation. Designed for young people interested in careers in international cooperation for sustainable development, the programme launched in pilot phase and welcomed its first participants between 26 June and 5 July 2023.

In the summer of 2023, UNRISD welcomed a selected group of 10 young people to a pilot of APOHS. The group had the opportunity to participate in enriching presentations and discussions with senior UNRISD researchers and UN experts on the multifaceted issues of human rights and sustainable development. Participants enjoyed a guided tour of international organizations based in Geneva, including the WHO, WTO, ILO and UNHCR, and contributed to the UNRISD annual stakeholder event, held in 2023 in celebration of the Institute’s 60th anniversary.



APOHS was designed as a training programme for young people searching for opportunities to work in the fields of international cooperation for sustainable development. The pilot programme included five lectures on human rights and sustainable development and seven study visits across various international organizations in Geneva. Participants also had the opportunity to work together to prepare and share group presentations.

The training programme was well-received by participants, who reported that the experience was overall excellent, particularly the quality of lectures. UNRISD, IIRI and CMK Foundation will continue to host the programme in summer 2024.

### **Integrated Development Planning in the Dominican Republic**

The Capacity Building for and Establishment of Sustainable Development Strategy project aims to address the Dominican Republic's development challenges through enhanced capacity building and the formulation of a comprehensive sustainable development plan. Led by the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic in collaboration with UNRISD, the project seeks to build the capacity of civil servants and key stakeholders to design and implement sustainable development plans. Furthermore, it aims to establish a robust Sustainable Development Plan for the Dominican Republic spanning from 2025 to 2040.

During the reporting period, UNRISD supported the formulation of a detailed proposal that outlines key activities and budgets for capacity building and sustainable development planning in the country. Also, fruitful dialogues with the Dominican Republic government helped clarify development priorities and steps for achieving sustainable development goals.

Moving forward, the project aims to diagnose the national development strategy, benchmark best practices and establish a Sustainable Development Plan for the country. Discussions with the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI) have begun to secure additional funding and strengthen partnerships. Collaboration with CABEI will enhance financial sustainability and maximize impact for sustainable development in the Dominican Republic.





# **Gender Justice and Development**

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**Shaping just gender  
outcomes in institutions,  
policies, political and  
social life**



# Gender Justice and Development

## Overview

For more than three decades, UNRISD has explored the gendered power relations at the core of institutions, policies, and political and social life, and how such dynamics shape unjust gender outcomes. The Institute's work adopts the concept of gender justice, which shifts the emphasis from integration to one of transformation of agendas, systems and structures from a feminist perspective.

Gender justice highlights the importance of tackling biases embedded in culture and institutions that limit women's freedom, agency, and access to and control of material and symbolic resources. These biases are reflected in the unequal distribution of economic resources and opportunities along gender lines and the invisibilization and undervaluing of certain forms of gendered labour vital to economies. At the same time, patriarchal violence against women and control of women's bodies have remained steadfast in parts of the world while intensifying in others, threatening to push back hard-won gains in women's rights and equality and reverse progress made in dismantling gender inequality in pursuit of justice. These trends are driven by dominant gender norms and values, which have come to shape power relations, institutions, policies and practices, and reproduce gender injustice.

The Gender Justice and Development (GJD) programme aims to contribute to understanding and addressing the economic, social, cultural and political barriers to the transformations—in individuals, institutions, policies and practices—

necessary for equality, empowerment, justice and the fair treatment of all, especially women. Underlying the work is the key hypothesis that, despite tensions between dominant gender roles and relations and the goals of gender justice, research can lead to improved knowledge, fairer policies and political action, and more equal gender outcomes. By explicitly addressing these tensions, the programme is well positioned to review the institutions and policies underpinning sustainable development, strengthen the knowledge base on how institutions shape behaviour and influence individual and collective options, and offer valuable insights to key policy actors globally.

## Objectives

- Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put gender justice dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.
- Contribute to the capacity development of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on gender justice and development issues through co-design of research methods and a mutual learning approach.
- Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of gender justice using an intersectional lens.
- Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.
- Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.

## Our Team

**Francisco Cos-Montiel**



Senior Research Coordinator

**Fabio Vélez**



Research Analyst

**Noni Estrada**



Research Analyst

**Anna Eknor Ackzell**



Research Analyst

**Allex Semba**



Research Intern  
(Jan–Apr 2023)

**Nawshin Tabassum**

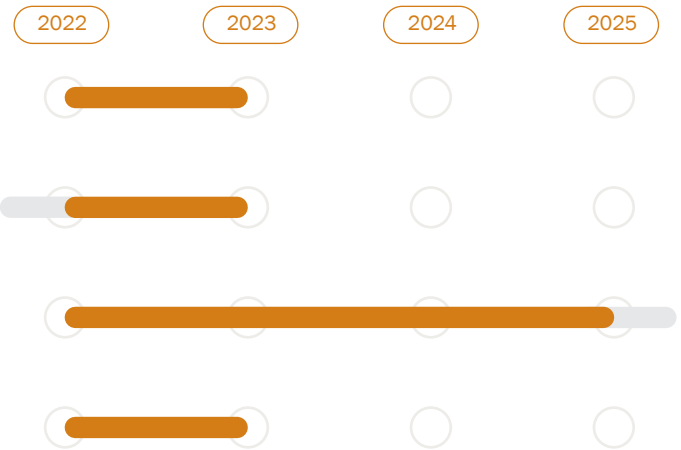


Research Intern  
(Jan–Apr 2023)

# At a glance

## Active projects

- Supporting Spain’s Feminist Foreign Policy through Research and Evidence<sup>4</sup>
- Social Care in Mexico
- Supporting the Global Alliance for Care by Providing Data, Research and Evidence for Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Gender Equality, Inclusive Growth and Investment in the Care Economy

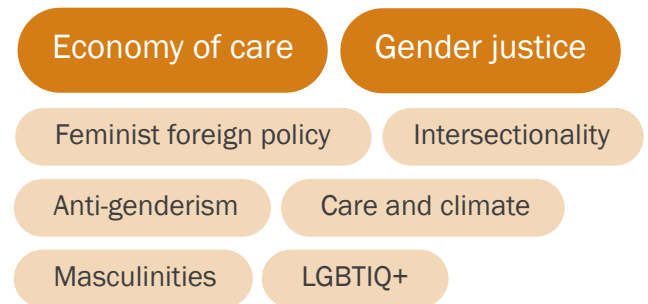


## Geographical focus



Global, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa

## Thematic areas



## Donors



## Partners

Asian Development Bank (ADB), Center for the Implementation of Public Policies for Equity and Growth (CIPPEC), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), El Colegio de Mexico (CM), Fondo de Cultura Económica, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Geneva Office, Fundación Carolina, Global Alliance for Care, Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE), Human Dignity Trust, International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE), International Labour Organization (ILO), Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), Latin American Team for Gender Justice (ELA), Levy Institute of Bard College, Metropolitan Autonomous University, Mexico’s National Institute for Women (INMUJERES), National Autonomous University of Mexico, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Women

<sup>4</sup> Programme officially closed in November 2022 but follow-up activities still ongoing.

# Supporting Spain's Feminist Foreign Policy through Research and Evidence

Key thematic area	Feminist foreign policy
Geographical focus	Latin America and the Caribbean, Philippines, Spain
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Women and girls, particularly those from marginalized communities, including rural women, women with disabilities, Indigenous women, informal workers and persons with diverse SOGIESC (sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics) in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Philippines
Project duration	October 2021 – December 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	ADB, ECLAC, El Colegio de México, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Geneva Office, Fondo de Cultura Económica, Fundación Carolina, International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE), Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), Metropolitan Autonomous University, National Autonomous University of Mexico, UNDP
Donors	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)

## Overview

Spain has come to be considered a global leader on gender equality and has been a reference point for countries in other regions, in particular for Latin America. Spain is also among the countries that have taken firm steps in the construction of feminist foreign policy aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and guided by SDG 5, related to gender equality. The country's feminist foreign policy aims to deepen the fulfilment of Spain's international commitments through the principles of transformative change, appropriation, inclusive participation and promotion of alliances, and intersectionality and diversity.

Through this project, UNRISD is carrying out work to support activities under Spain's Foreign Action Strategy 2021–2024, the SDGs, and commitments for the advancement of gender justice in priority regions for the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID). Through an intersectional approach, the project enables partnerships and collaboration with local and regional research institutions, national government offices, the private sector and women's organizations. The objectives of the project are to: develop research products on feminist foreign policy and provide visibility to the Spanish gender equality agenda in international forums.

## 2023 achievements and results

The project, which officially concluded in 2022, has not only met its designated goals but has also fostered enduring relationships and networks extending beyond its timeline. This laid a robust foundation for continued growth and collaboration, enabling the programme to leverage the outcomes and relationships established during the project implementation phase. This approach ensured that the project's legacy is not confined to a fixed period but evolves, reflecting our strategic commitment to long-term impact and adaptability in pursuit of our institutional objectives.

In 2023, efforts yielded a series of insightful publications, collaborations and capacity-building initiatives aimed at advancing feminist foreign policy. One highlight of the year was the publication of research products centred on feminist perspectives in international relations. In particular, our commitment to addressing challenges to gender equality extended to confronting regressive forces. In May, UNRISD published a working paper exploring how anti-gender actors apply “development” discourse to promote policies limiting LGBTIQ+ rights and restricting sexual and reproductive health and rights. In the same month, the paper was selected as part of OHCHR's inquiry on colonialism and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity/Expression (SOGIE). Throughout the year, the paper garnered significant attention, ranking

<sup>5</sup> Programme officially closed in November 2022 but follow-up activities still ongoing.

among the top three most downloaded papers in 2023. This widespread interest prompted the organization of a webinar in November featuring the paper's authors which drew an audience of over 400 participants and over 700 video replays.

Collaborations have also been instrumental in amplifying our impact. On International Women's Day 2023, UNRISD and AECID co-organized a roundtable event in Madrid, focusing on ecofeminism and care, within the context of achieving SDG 5 on gender equality. The event featured the launch of the book, *Care and Ecofeminism: Consolidating Progress and Building Egalitarian Futures in Latin America*, resulting from a collaboration with Fundación Carolina. The book collates voices of academics, social activists and specialists from international agencies and civil society organizations reflecting on care and women's economic autonomy and sustainability in Latin America. Additionally, the partnership with Fondo de Cultura Económica culminated in the co-edition and publication of the book, *Desire and Conflict. Sexual Politics, Violent Practices and Victimization*. Coordinated by Marta Lamas and Mariana Palumbo, the book was launched at an event at the Elena Garro Cultural Center in Mexico in October 2023. It explores the institutionalization of social practices in political discourse, questioning the legitimacy of emerging "justice" concepts and challenging heteronormative and patriarchal structures.

In terms of capacity building, UNRISD launched a new course in May 2023 titled "Gender and Intersectionality in Development and International Cooperation". The course, funded by AECID, has been adopted as a training tool for AECID's staff to integrate a feminist and intersectional perspective into their projects and policies. Tailored for sustainable development professionals, it balances theoretical rigor with practical applicability, ensuring seamless translation into daily work routines.

Similarly, the programme participated in a dialogue with Karina Batthyány, Executive Director of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), within the framework of the XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in November 2022. The dialogue focused on critical issues related to gender justice, particularly

gender parity, and the video recording of the event was released online in March 2023 as a key learning resource.

### **UNRISD course on intersectionality in international development cooperation**

Acknowledging the limitations of a singular gender perspective, the course comprises six online units covering topics such as intersectionality's history, identity, politics, norms, reflexivity and policy perspectives. Each unit is delivered asynchronously, offering theoretical content, audiovisual materials and case studies. Participants can engage in synchronous group sessions for discussion and clarification. This flexible format allows participants to adapt the course to their schedules, dedicating approximately 90 minutes per unit per week. The group discussions provide a virtual platform for interaction and knowledge sharing among students and experts.

The course was also voted as one of two initiatives to be prioritized for cross-UN agency adoption and was presented at the 2022 and 2023 annual conference of the UN System-wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

# Supporting the Global Alliance for Care by Providing Data, Research and Evidence for Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

Key thematic area	Economy of care
Geographical focus	Latin America and the Caribbean
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Women and girls in Latin America and the Caribbean, and more widely throughout the global South, paying particular attention to the most marginalized, including Indigenous and Afro-descendent women, rural women, and women working in the informal sector
Project duration	November 2022 – March 2026
Implementing and strategic partners	CIPPEC, Global Alliance for Care, GRADE, Latin American Team for Gender Justice (ELA), Mexico's National Institute for Women (INMUJERES), UN Women
Donors	International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

## Overview

Feminist activists, researchers and civil society organizations, along with UN agencies, including UNRISD, defined the care agenda more than two decades ago and developed research methodologies to place care on the policy-making radars of governments. However, it is only in the past five years that the importance of the recognition of unpaid work done predominantly by women has become more visible and efforts to redistribute and reward it have become part of the public agenda, even more so following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Amid these developments, the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) took place in Mexico in 2021, where, under the framework of the Economic Justice and Rights Action Coalition, the Mexican government through Mexico's National Institute for Women and UN Women announced the creation of the Global Alliance for Care (GAC). The alliance's work is focused on the design and implementation of measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care and domestic work, reward paid care and domestic work, and ensure representation of women care workers—the 5Rs (recognize, reduce, redistribute, reward, representation). Currently, the GAC has secured the collective commitment of 55 member countries.

Recognizing the importance of data, research and evidence to advance the care work agenda globally, GAC is working with UNRISD to mobilize support and funding to foster knowledge-sharing and collaboration around care. The project aims to support efforts by the GAC to share existing and new evidence among decision makers in Latin America and the Caribbean and beyond and showcase good practices among development partners through the creation of a depository of current research and the development of a global Rapid Research and Evidence Facility for care.

UNRISD acts as administrator and secretariat of the Facility, which mobilizes partnerships and collaboration with regional, national and local research institutions, national government offices, the private sector, media, and women's organizations who work on the care economy. The Facility's objectives are to: be responsive to requests from the GAC for short evidence-based position papers that can be used in negotiations or other spaces where care policy is developed; produce a report on the state of the art on care policies; mobilize a community of policy makers working on care; and advance work on transforming cultural norms that act as obstacles to the recognition and redistribution of care between women and men.

## 2023 achievements and results

During the first quarter 2023, UNRISD delved into the intricate dynamics between technology, care work and public policies, a critical exploration undertaken in collaboration with GAC under the auspices of the Global Rapid Research and Evidence Facility for Care. This endeavour resulted in the publishing of two working papers on the subject, which were presented during a side event at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) in New York City. UNRISD also brought forward the care discourse by supporting ELA in publishing a new study on “The Voices of Care” in Argentina which focuses on fatherhood and the interface with leave and care policies.

As part of a commitment to support GAC members’ initiatives, UNRISD participated in the Gender Lens Investing in Latin America Forum on 17–19 October 2023, a first-of-its-kind event dedicated to promoting gender-focused investments as an effective mechanism to advance gender justice and boost economic development in the region. In addition, UNRISD conducted a comprehensive five-week training course on gender and intersectionality for GAC members in November which was attended by more than 50 members.

One of the highlights of the year was the launch of the Global Digital Community on Care (GDCC) in partnership with GAC, Mexico’s National Institute for Women, UN Women and the International Development Research Centre of Canada (IDRC) at a hybrid event in Mexico City. As part of UNRISD’s effort toward fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration, the platform, curated by GAC members, serves as a comprehensive repository of invaluable resources such as research, data, laws and policies essential for driving the care agenda forward (see Spotlight below).

In order to promote public policy innovation in the care economy by fostering partnerships between policy makers and researchers, UNRISD, the Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE), GAC and IDRC launched a call for proposals for the Care Economy Public Policy Innovations Collaborative Action-Research Fund Latin America and the Caribbean in March 2023.

While the quality and relevance of the 55 proposals received made the selection process competitive and challenging, the Evaluation Committee awarded funding to four research projects in Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Uruguay.

In 2023, UNRISD also played a focal role in advising on gender equality during the Chilean constitutional process participating in the International Expert Group of Latin American scholars advising on the development of a normative proposal for a Chilean constitution grounded in gender equality. The proposal was presented during the Ibero-American Forum: Gender Equality in the Chilean Constitutional Process, co-organized with the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI) on 8 June in Santiago, Chile.

UNRISD closed the year with its participation at the COP28 in Dubai, with the panel discussion on “Gender Just Climate Transitions: Global Perspectives on the Implications for Land Rights and the Care Economy”. Co-hosted by the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ), the panel delved into empowering an inclusive and equitable just transition, converging care, land rights and tenure security to foster tangible change. The dialogue yielded identification of six critical intersections between the care and climate action agendas, poised to redefine global development discourse and inform context-specific practices. The conversation also laid the groundwork for the inception of a new initiative on climate and care, slated for further development in 2024 in collaboration with AVINA, Oxfam Canada and GAC with support from Canada’s International Development Research Centre (see box below).

## COP28: Six action areas intersecting climate change, just transitions and care

On the occasion of the COP28, UNRISD and the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice (FACJ) convened by UN Women under Generation Equality came together with partners for a dynamic discussion on how to motivate action for a gender-just climate transition focused on the intersections with the economy of care. The side event, titled “Gender Just Climate Transitions: Global Perspectives on the Implications for Land Rights and the Care Economy”, represented a pioneering effort to thoroughly present this critical and previously unexplored topic, and identified six action areas intersecting climate change, just transitions and care.



# 01

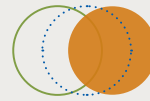
### **Integrate (and internalize) the care of people and the planet into climate change agendas.**

Expand the paradigm of the 3, 5 or 7 Rs of care to integrate specific actions to care for the planet in a comprehensive manner.



# 02

### **Increase bottom-up research** with the aim of making the climate-care intersection visible and meaningful.



# 03

### **Redefine “development”** within the cooperation and development agendas by integrating the climate-care intersection from a participatory and context-specific perspective.



# 04

### **Design just transitions with a gender and intersectional perspective.**

Doing it in a comprehensive way, and not only focusing on instrumental cases for gender equality.

Advancing in a decent way the mitigation and adaptation actions that many women already undertake in “environmental care” work and resilient agriculture.

Not leaving girls behind.

Developing financing and fiscal policies based on evidence.



# 05

### **Explore formulas to redistribute unpaid domestic and care work.**

Continue supporting the cultural change of gender norms.



# 06

### **Articulate conceptually and politically the emancipatory agendas in a common front** (feminist, ecological, anti-racist, etc.) to confront the denialist and neoconservatist “culture war”.

The panel discussion led to the creation of a consortium, comprising AVINA, Oxfam Canada, GAC and UNRISD, with support from Canada’s International Development Research Centre. The coalition aims to investigate the interplay between climate change and care work, seeking to produce evidence and promote strategies and practices empowering women and communities to transition toward a more just and equitable system. This initiative represents a step forward in integrating gender equality and environmental sustainability, recognizing that effective climate action requires a holistic approach that includes care work and gender perspectives.

→ [Discover the event’s takeaway infographic](#)

# Global Digital Community on Care: Information on care all in one place



encompasses a wide range of resources, including research findings, data sets, personal experiences, videos, legal documents, policy insights, advocacy strategies, and details on various types of care services. This diverse collection represents contributions from urban

In collaboration with INMUJERES, UN Women Mexico, UNRISD's Gender Justice and Development Programme, IDRC and the GAC launched the "Global Digital Community on Care" platform. The event, conducted in a hybrid format on 27 October at Mexico's National Institute for Women, included valuable insights from a diverse group of participants, such as representatives from the governments of Spain, Tanzania and the Philippines, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Global Affairs Canada.

## About the platform

The Global Digital Community on Care serves as a comprehensive repository of information curated by members of the Global Alliance for Care. It

and rural areas across all countries and regions, spanning multiple sectors.

The primary objective of this platform is to provide users with access to a wealth of information essential for advancing the development and implementation of care policies and services. It serves as a valuable resource for researchers, policy makers, practitioners and advocates alike, facilitating knowledge sharing and fostering communication and dissemination strategies within the field of care. In essence, the platform functions as a global digital community dedicated to promoting dialogue and collaboration in the realm of care.

→ [Visit the platform](#)

# Social Care in Mexico

Key thematic area	Economy of care
Geographical focus	Mexico
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Women and men in Mexico who require and/or provide care in their lifetime
Project duration	October 2021 – March 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	Levy Institute of Bard College, Mexico's National Institute for Women (INMUJERES)
Donors	Mexico's National Institute for Women (INMUJERES)

## Overview

In recent years, there has been growing interest in the expansion of care services in many countries around the world. This is due partly to greater recognition that the responsibility for unpaid care work, which falls most heavily on women within households, is a major obstacle to women's labour-force engagement. Unlocking this labour is important due to its potentially positive impacts for economic growth and women's economic empowerment.

The expansion of social provisioning of care services is thus promoted with an eye toward growth and poverty reduction. But relatively little research has directly examined the linkages between the social provisioning of care, the expansion of employment opportunities for women, and economic growth. Even less attention has been paid to the potential impact of labour-force engagement for women's time use and time poverty.

This project considers the impacts, based on the Levy Institute Measure of Time and Income Poverty (LIMTIP), of three policy interventions (universal free quality childcare, extended school days for school-age children, and universal elder care) to inform decision making by Mexico's National Institute for Women. The LIMTIP is a measurement framework that enables a well-informed estimation of poverty rates and depth of poverty, taking into account not only income but also time. It is accompanied by a simulation tool that can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of a policy intervention in reducing time and income poverty simultaneously.

The project is a response to the need for greater research on the intersections between care, women's employment and growth. Such research is particularly important for formulating policies that promote gender, social and economic justice in a coherent and integrated manner. The objectives of the project are to: estimate the LIMTIP for Mexico for 2019; create models for the three types of social care expansion; simulate the impacts of the expansion of employment resulting from policy interventions in terms of the distribution of new jobs, effects on individual earnings and household income, and redistribution of time spent on household production

within affected households; and estimate the individual and combined impacts on the time and income poverty status of affected individuals and households.

## 2023 achievements and results

In 2022, the government of Mexico commissioned two research studies to assess the investments needed to establish a comprehensive care system in Mexico. UNRISD partnered with the Levy Economics Institute of Bard College to carry out this research. The studies aimed to evaluate the impacts, using the Levy Institute Measure of Time and Income Poverty (LIMTIP), of three focused policy interventions: universal high-quality healthcare, extended school hours for school-aged children, and universal elder care.

Following the publication of the first report in 2022, which provided a comprehensive gender perspective evaluation on job creation, income generation, and changes in paid and unpaid workload and the associated risk of time poverty, phase two of the project aimed to advance the implementation of a comprehensive care system. This phase addressed both the direct and indirect impacts of implementing elderly care services and extending school hours based on time use, job creation and income and time poverty. The research conducted in 2023 contributes to transforming the perception of care from a social expense to a social investment.

During the reporting period, UNRISD extracted recommendations from these studies and drafted two working papers tailored to guide the decision-making process of INMUJERES and assist policymakers in developing a just, equitable and sustainable care system. Preliminary results of the study found that while expanding early childhood education services marginally reduces women's time deficits, it fails to significantly alleviate their overall time poverty. The study emphasizes the necessity of implementing additional measures to redistribute household responsibilities for more substantial improvements in time poverty. In the second phase, UNRISD highlighted to policymakers the broader benefits of comprehensive care policies on the well-being of care recipients, women's employment and gender equality.

## PROJECT

# Gender Equality, Inclusive Growth and Investment in the Care Economy

Key thematic area	Economy of care
Geographical focus	Global, with specific focus on: Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Lao PDR, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Women and girls in the global South, with particular attention to the most marginalized
Project duration	October 2022 – March 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	UN Women, International Labour Organization (ILO)
Donors	UN Women

## Overview

Coordination among UN agencies that work on gender equality and the empowerment of women is vital. UNRISD is providing support to a new Joint Programme on “Promoting Decent Employment for Women through Inclusive Growth Policies and Investments in the Care Economy”, coordinated by UN Women and the ILO. This programme aims to: create the political consensus for the adoption of macro-level economic policy accelerators that support gender-equitable inclusive growth and more and better jobs for women through evidence-based policy analysis and advocacy, technical advice and capacity strengthening; adopt sectoral and industrial policies that tackle occupational and sectoral segregation and enhance women’s access to decent employment opportunities through policy advice, capacity development and technical support; and ensure that investments in care—this includes health, long-term care, childcare and education—are costed, financed and implemented through policy advice, capacity development and technical support.

## 2023 achievements and results

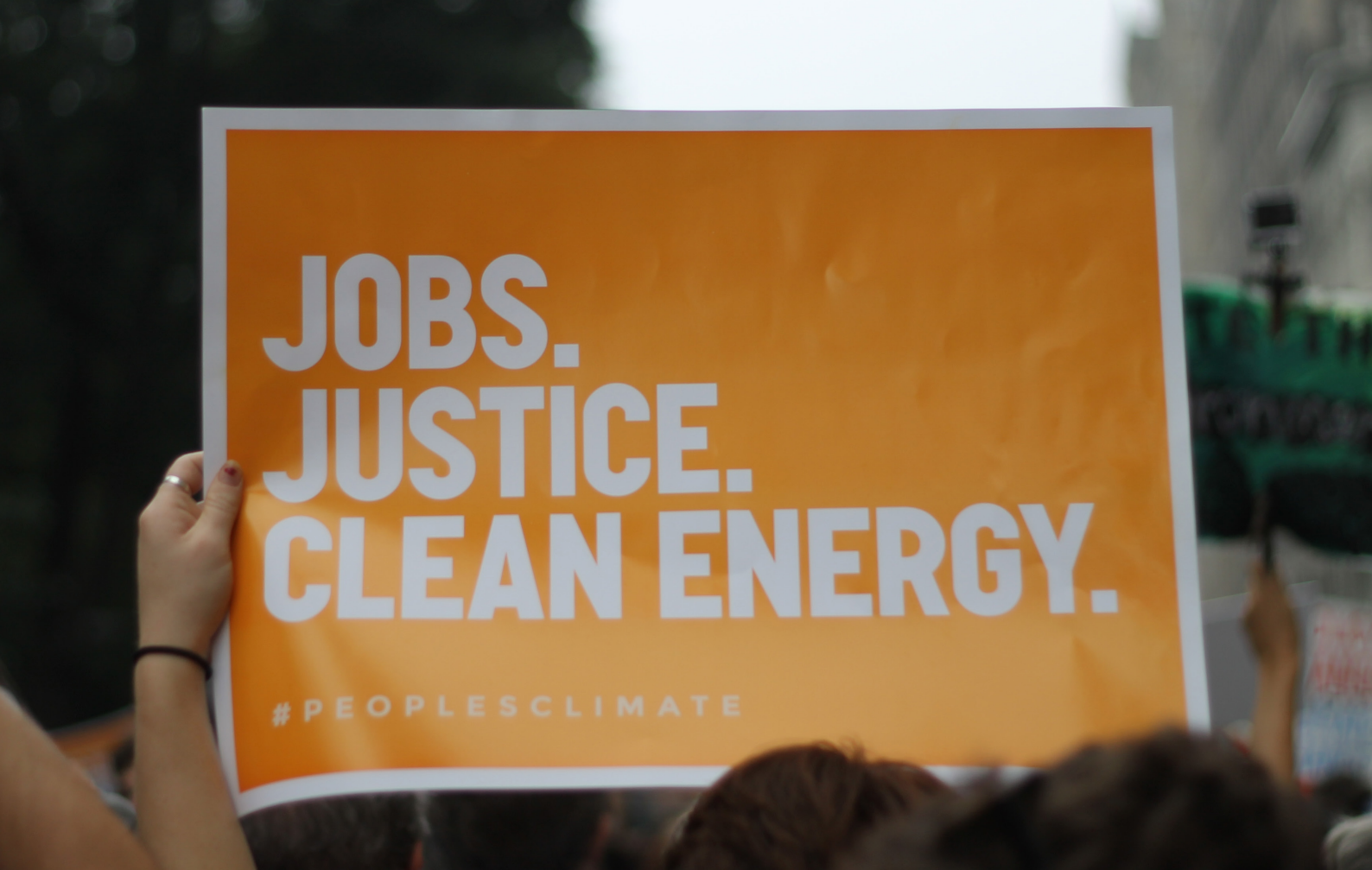
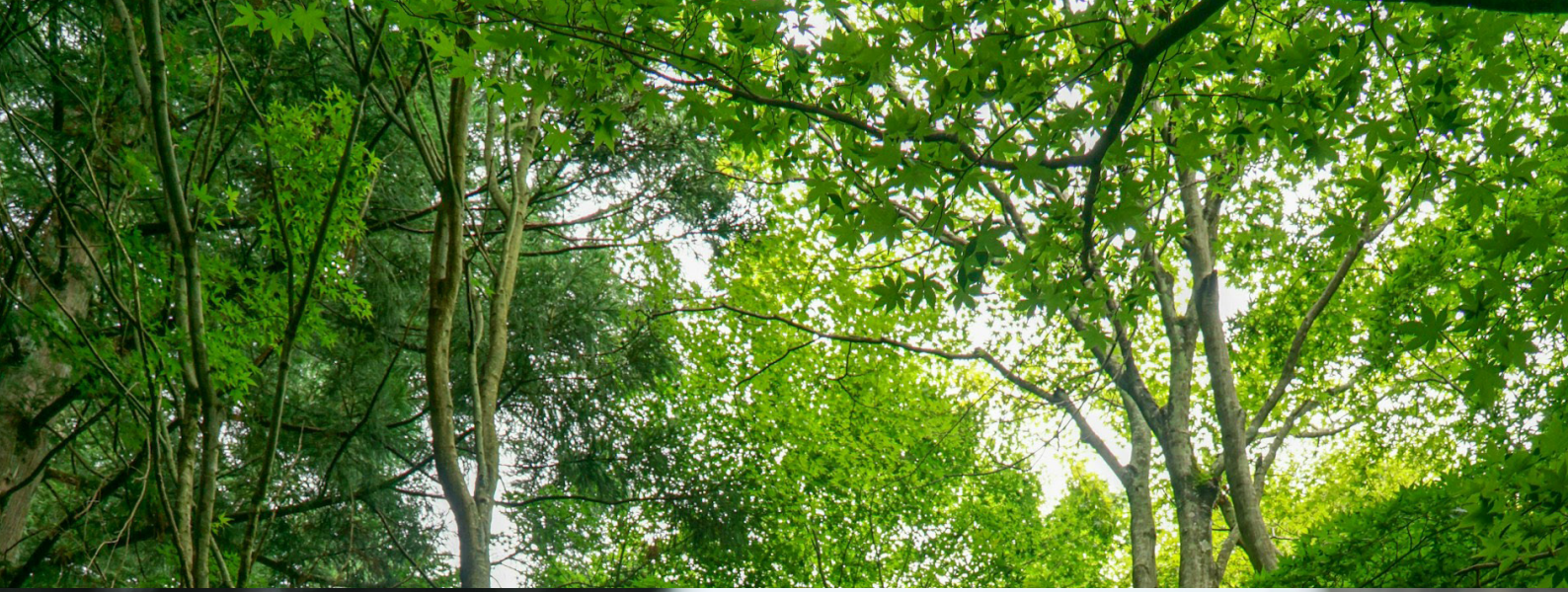
During the reporting period, UNRISD contributed to a new report published as part of the UN Women-ILO Joint Programme on “Promoting Decent Employment for Women through Inclusive Growth Policies and Investments in the Care Economy”. UNRISD helped consolidate and review findings from case studies assessing fiscal stimulus packages in 11 countries using a gender

equality perspective based on a policy assessment tool developed by UN Women. Findings from the report were presented at an Expert Group Meeting on Engendering Fiscal Space convened by UN Women and hosted by the Istanbul Technical University on 25–26 January 2023 in Istanbul, Turkey.

## Other activities

### Investments in childcare for gender equality in Asia and the Pacific

In 2023, UNRISD joined forces with the Asian Development Bank, ILO and UNDP to investigate childcare provision across 48 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The report, published in August 2023, highlights why and how investing in childcare could have positive impacts on gender equality, decent work and sustainable development in the region. It provides policy makers, development partners, researchers, civil society and other stakeholders with helpful analysis and recommendations for childcare policies and institutional frameworks for children aged 0–6 years old. Country case studies from Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka offer valuable insights into local contexts, amplifying the voices of parents, providers and childcare workers. This report serves as a roadmap for fostering inclusive and equitable childcare systems across the region, calling for greater investments in quality, accessible and affordable childcare.





# **Environmental and Climate Justice**

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**Assessing and addressing environmental and climate change in terms of distributive and procedural justice**



# Environmental and Climate Justice

## Overview

Environmental and climate disruptions caused by human activity threaten the well-being and prosperity of every living being on the planet. The business-as-usual, symbolic and surface-level responses that have come to characterize public- and private-sector actions and decision-making in recent decades have not been commensurate with what is needed to halt damage to the planet's ecosystems and climate. They have also failed to tackle the underlying power structures, systems of oppression and exploitation, and entrenched injustices whereby people and communities least responsible for damage to the environment and climate—particularly people living in poverty, Indigenous peoples and minorities—often bear the worst consequences.

Cognizant of these dynamics, the Environmental and Climate Justice programme approaches climate and environmental change as rights issues. The programme provides evidence, analysis and recommendations that address climate and environmental injustices and contribute to greater sustainability and equality in policy and in practice. Adopting an intersectional and rights-based lens puts the programme in a position to explore interlinkages between social, climate and environmental justice, and how, together, they can contribute to rights-based, equitable and sustainable development. In addition to producing

original research, the programme also draws on progressive, cutting-edge perspectives that are currently underrepresented in the climate debate and brings this knowledge into international conversations on climate and development. The programme's two main areas of work during the reporting period were just transitions to low-carbon development and transformative adaptation and resilience.

## Objectives

- Analyse how social and environmental injustices manifest at all levels of governance, including how they interact with inequality and discrimination, to identify entry points for transformative change in policy and in practice.
- Convene and catalyse the co-production and sharing of knowledge for integrated policies and practices, with a particular focus on strengthening the role of global South researchers and experts.
- Provide a platform and give prominence to marginalized and neglected viewpoints and voices that challenge mainstream and business-as-usual policy solutions.

## Our Team

**Dunja Krause**



Research Coordinator

**Anmol Arora**



Research Analyst  
(Until June 2023)

**Anabella Rosemberg**



Senior Advisor on Just Transition (Until Dec 2023)

**Vicente Paolo B. Yu III**



Visiting Fellow

**Srity Pal**

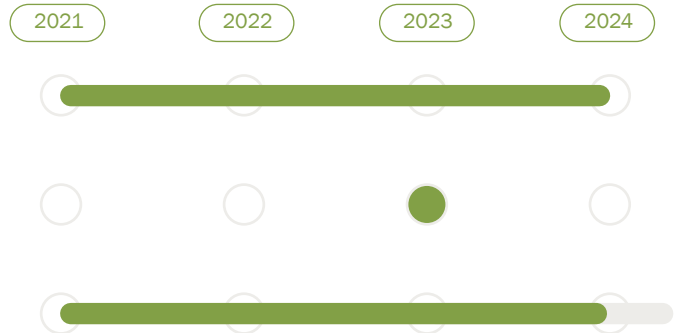


Research Intern  
(Jan–Mar 2023)

# At a glance

## Active projects

- State of Resilience in Africa
- Just Transition Research Collaborative  
—Assessing Just Energy Transition Partnerships  
in the context of multilateral climate policy
- Network for Equity in Transitions  
from Fossil Fuels

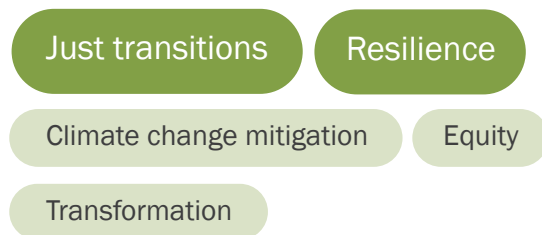


## Geographical focus



Global, Africa

## Thematic areas



## Donors



## Partners

African Union Commission, Climate Action Network International, Dimitris Stevis, collaborating researcher, Edouard Morena, collaborating researcher, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, JTRC collaborators, Public Services International, Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa, What Next?

# State of Resilience in Africa

Key thematic area	Resilience, transformation, adaptation
Geographical focus	Africa
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	African Union member states, development partners and communities, UNDP country offices
Project duration	November 2021 – February 2024
Implementing and strategic partners	African Union Commission, UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa
Donors	UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa

## Overview

The severity and increased frequency of multiple risks and shocks, and their ability to simultaneously impact vulnerable systems, threaten to reverse progress made toward meeting the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the African Union Agenda 2063. The Covid-19 pandemic, climate change risks, and extreme weather and political events—all interacting with and exacerbating each other—underscore the limitations of our current understanding of resilience in Africa and the data and tools used to track and measure it. Resilience in an African context must be viewed and measured in relation to whole mutually reinforcing systems, not just individual sectors.

In collaboration with the UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa, the project aims to identify and address some of the critical shortcomings and gaps in current resilience policies and actions and suggest a robust resilience profile tailored to the continent, one that operationalizes and models effective and practical applications of resilience building that supports risk-informed development. Building and strengthening resilience in Africa is now understood to be critical for shock-proofing achievements made toward sustainable development and ensuring steady progress into the future.

The objectives of the project are to: conceptualize and map the state of the art of resilience in an African context; outline a resilience profile looking at the concept's key dimensions and hold a high-level dialogue and a series of consultations with stakeholders to validate the concept, profile and proposed measurement framework; illustrate effective and practical applications of resilience through national, regional and community-level case studies; and deliver a resilience profile that includes appropriate indicators, data sources and gaps.

## 2023 achievements and results

The first phase of the project ended with the completion of the resilience profile and indicators delivered to the UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa in the comprehensive report on Roots of African Resilience at the end of February 2023. In January and February, six case studies were developed and integrated into the report and the draft document completed based on feedback received and discussions held during the Naivasha stakeholder dialogue in December 2022.

The project subsequently entered a second phase to translate the concept into action. This entailed collecting feedback from a wide range of constituencies within the African Union Commission and revising the approach and tool based on feedback received. In a first instance, UNRISD addressed and integrated feedback received from the AUC Disaster Risk Reduction Unit and held regular meetings with UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa and AUC colleagues to ensure dialogue and close collaboration in the revision process. UNRISD further liaised with the UNDP Resilience Hub for Africa to support the organization and implementation of the AUC Inter-departmental roundtable on the ROAR approach that was held in a hybrid format online and in Bishoftu, Ethiopia 1-3 October 2023. The Roundtable was an important milestone toward AUC endorsement and uptake of the work and was followed by another round of review and integration of feedback delivered to AUC for endorsement and finalization at the end of December 2023.

## PROJECT

# Just Transition Research Collaborative—Assessing Just Energy Transition Partnerships in the Context of Multilateral Climate Policy

Key thematic area	Climate change mitigation, equity, just transition
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Academics, civil society, climate policy makers
Project duration	April 2023 – December 2023
Implementing and strategic partners	Climate Action Network International, Public Services International, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, Dimitris Stevis (collaborating researcher), JTRC collaborators
Donors	Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung

## Overview

The Just Transition Research Collaborative (JTRC) was created as a space for exchange and discussion that brings together a range of experts from academia and civil society to collectively map and analyse the different understandings and narratives of “Just Transition” underpinning the concept’s growing popularity and uptake. The project provides an important contribution to the science-policy dialogue around just transitions and offers policy recommendations on how the approach can be used to foster the transition to equitable low-carbon development.

Since JTRC was established in 2018, just transition has continued to proliferate across the world and has become a key topic in multilateral debates on climate change, sustainable development and the recovery from Covid-19. While there is no single, fully agreed upon definition and approach to just transition, it is also not yet clear whether and to what extent new JETP agreements are pursuing an approach that is in line with the multilateral consensus on the need to achieve both ambitious decarbonization and justice based on participation and social dialogue that includes workers, frontline communities and affected groups of people in decision making.

The objectives of the project are to: assess and discuss how inclusive and just JETP agreements are and what their broader impact on multilateral climate policy and its instruments is; build upon and expand the existing outputs and network of the JTRC and convene relevant stakeholders to shed light on these issues; and generate evidence to advance the understanding of current just transition discourses and contribute to the science-policy dialogue around just transition in developing countries.

## 2023 achievements and results

The project started in April with a mapping and identification of relevant civil society stakeholders and practitioners in the conversations about Just Energy Transition Partnerships from the JTRC network and beyond. Subsequently, a dialogue series on JETPs was organized in collaboration with Climate Action Network International, Public Services International and the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative. The dialogues convened over 50 experts from a diverse set of civil society organizations around the world (60 percent global South, 53 percent women) to first discuss openings and challenges JETPs bring at the conceptual, policy and implementation levels

before diving deeper into questions of governance, finance, national ownership and the justice dimension of JETPs, all of which were identified as critical areas for advancing justice and equity in the global energy transition.

The dialogue series served as an input to the drafting of a discussion document and policy brief

that was launched during a webinar at COP28 in Dubai on 7 December 2023. The webinar was held as a public outreach event to allow broad participation and contribute critical collective reflections to the policy debates around just (energy) transitions taking place in the multilateral negotiations.

## Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs): What Do We Need to Know to Assess Them?

The poster features a green and blue background with a grid of images on the right side, including a sign that says 'JOBS. JUSTICE. CLEAN ENERGY.', a globe icon, and various protest signs. Below the grid are four circular portraits of the speakers: Anabella Roseberg, Srestha Banerjee, David Boys, and Tetet Lauron. At the bottom, there are logos for Sustainable Development Goals, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, and UNRISD.

Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) promised to deliver quickly and effectively on just energy transitions in a select few developing countries. However, forged among a small group of partners outside the multilateral climate policy space, it is not yet clear how ambitious, just and inclusive they are. This webinar introduced a common framework for assessing JETPs performance on justice and the energy transition.

### Speakers

- Anabella Roseberg, Senior Advisor on Just Transition for the Climate Action Network International
- Srestha Banerjee, Director of the India Just Transition Centre at iFOREST
- David Boys, PSI Deputy General Secretary
- Tetet Lauron, Advisor for the United Nations Programme, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (Moderator)

→ [Watch the recording](#)

## PROJECT

# Network for Equity in Transitions from Fossil Fuels

Key thematic area	Climate change mitigation, equity, just transition
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Civil society, climate policy stakeholders, researchers
Project duration	November 2021 – December 2025
Implementing and strategic partners	Just Transition Research Collaborative, Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, What Next?
Donors	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

## Overview

The urgency of deep and rapid decarbonization is increasingly recognized as a global political priority to tackle the climate crisis and limit its catastrophic impacts on humans and ecosystems worldwide. But while there is consensus on the urgency of global climate action to achieve the Paris Agreement objectives, the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, deep-seated dependence on fossil fuels and an aversion to tackling questions of equitable burden-sharing are currently impeding the policies and actions needed to reduce emissions.

In collaboration with the Just Transition Research Collaborative, the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative and What Next?, the project aims to fill existing knowledge gaps and identify policy solutions for just transitions that reflect national and global interests and are shaped in an inclusive manner. The network aims to offer policy-relevant insights and advice for governments and other policy stakeholders at the national and international levels on socially just and acceptable solutions for a rapid transition away from fossil fuel dependence. The objectives of the project are to: convene a network for equity in fossil fuel transitions to co-construct context-specific knowledge; build an evidence base for equitable transitions toward a low-carbon future that focuses on the global South; enhance cross-regional dialogue and exchange of experiences; and offer policy advice relevant to addressing equity in transition decisions.

## 2023 achievements and results

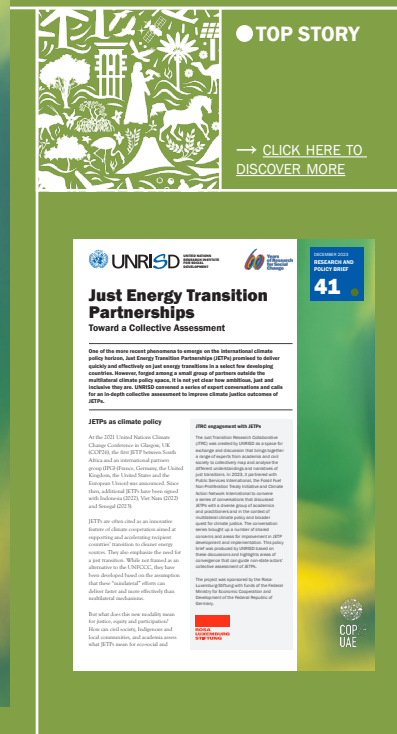
At the beginning of 2023, UNRISD undertook a mapping exercise to identify key experts from within and beyond the Just Transition Research Collaborative who had a focus on justice and equity dimensions of energy and broader fossil fuels transitions. This landscape mapping identified a number of new voices from practitioners and movements primarily based in the global South who were contacted and invited to participate in an exchange on questions related to achieving justice and equity in the transition away from fossil fuels. The individuals and groups identified come from diverse backgrounds and a variety of spaces in the political spectrum that rarely engage with each other. The connections between (post)development thinking and environment/climate are not yet fully made, and even within the environmental space, views about the weight of justice elements in the transition vary. Several weeks of bilateral discussions were needed to ensure our convenings counted with all this diversity and all actors were in good dispositions to engage with each other in a constructive way.

Two multi-actor discussions were organized during the reporting period, covering a large spectrum of actors (academia, think tanks, trade unions, NGO, social movements) and geographies (North America, South and Central America, Africa, Europe, Southeast Asia). This was seen as a first and positive step toward creating a network and discussion space for organizations to engage and ideally converge into key areas of advocacy and

demands moving forward. The conversations featured case study presentations from Indonesia and South Africa and participants discussed several shared concerns for developing countries when it comes to the development and implementation of transitions away from fossil fuels.

The discussions served as a basis for the drafting of a vision document for a more inclusive, progressive and global South-led just transition. The draft vision will facilitate additional dialogue and exchange of experience between global South researchers and practitioners from different regions in the continuation of the project.

# Just Energy Transition Partnerships: Toward a Collective Assessment



One of the more recent phenomena to emerge on the international climate policy horizon, Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs), promised to deliver quickly and effectively on just energy transitions in a select few developing countries. However, forged among a small group of partners outside the multilateral climate policy space, it is not yet clear how ambitious, just and inclusive they are. UNRISD convened a series of expert conversations and calls for an in-depth collective assessment to improve climate justice outcomes of JETPs.

The Just Transition Research Collaborative (JTRC) was created by UNRISD as a space for exchange and discussion that brings together a range of experts from academia and civil society to collectively map and analyse the different understandings and narratives of just transitions. In 2023, it partnered with Public Services International, the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative and Climate

Action Network International to convene a series of conversations on JETPs with a diverse group of academics and practitioners in the context of multilateral climate policy and the broader quest for climate justice. The conversation series brought up a number of shared concerns and areas for improvement in JETP development and implementation.

This policy brief was produced by UNRISD based on these discussions and highlights areas of convergence that can guide non-state actors' collective assessment of JETPs. The project was sponsored by the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung with funds of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany.

[Read the Research and Policy Brief](#)





# **Translating Research into Policy and Practice**

## **–Bonn Programme**

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**Sharing knowledge,  
building capacities and  
fostering partnerships for  
sustainable development**



# Translating Research into Policy and Practice —Bonn Programme

## Overview

Interdisciplinary research is vital for the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, translating research into integrated policies and effective development interventions and creating a two-way dialogue between research, policy and practice are just as important. Established with support from BMZ and the German Federal Foreign Office, UNRISD's "Translating Research into Policy and Practice—Bonn programme" seeks to build the knowledge and capacity needed in the international cooperation, sustainable development and innovation ecosystem in Bonn, Germany, and beyond to address the social, economic, political and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

The Bonn programme's approach is to create new interagency collaborations, enhance synergies between UNRISD research and knowledge and capacity needs of policy makers, development practitioners and civil society actors, and strengthen evidence-informed implementation of

the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Located strategically in Bonn, a hub for the United Nation's climate and sustainability efforts with over 20 UN organizations in the city focused on these issues, the programme allows the Institute to make a unique contribution to the Bonn ecosystem on the social dimensions of sustainable development.

## Objectives

- Identify knowledge and capacity gaps regarding the social dimensions of sustainable development and link these to UNRISD research.
- Support integrated approaches to SDG implementation with interdisciplinary evidence and knowledge products.
- Create partnerships with and platforms for voices from the global South and the Bonn ecosystem of development actors.
- Build an eco-social contract network that connects policy makers, researchers and activists across the globe.

## Our Team

**Katja Hujo**



Senior Research Coordinator  
& Head of Bonn Office

**Isabell Kempf**



Head of the Bonn  
Office (Until August 2023)

**Paramita Dutta**



Research Analyst

**Rafael Ponte**



Junior Research Analyst  
(Until September 2023)

**Sayed Masoumi**



Research Intern  
(Jan–Mar 2023); Junior Research  
Analyst (Apr–Jun 2023)

**Lucas Reinhardt**

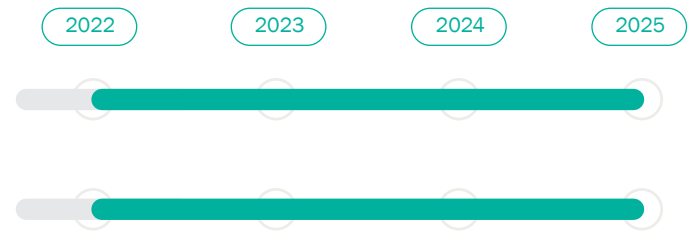


Visiting Fellow  
(August 2023)

# At a glance

## Active projects

- Integrating Knowledge and Capacity Development for the SDGs
- Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract



## Geographical focus



Global

## Thematic areas

Eco-social contract

Inequality

Capacity development

Knowledge sharing

Research uptake

## Donors

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

 Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

 **Robert Bosch  
Stiftung**

## Partners

German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), German Federal Foreign Office, Green Economy Coalition, Club de Madrid, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Robert Bosch Stiftung

# Integrating Knowledge and Capacity Development for the SDGs

Key thematic area	Capacity development, research uptake
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Policy makers, practitioners, activists, researchers
Project duration	September 2021 – August 2025
Implementing and strategic partners	German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), German Federal Foreign Office, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Robert Bosch Stiftung
Donors	German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

## Overview

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out an ambitious pathway of transformative change to combat contemporary challenges and achieve more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development outcomes. This necessitates profound shifts in thinking, policies and practice. It is vital that governments and their development partners in the UN system, civil society and the private sector have access to pluralistic, cutting-edge and rigorous knowledge and evidence to enable such shifts.

The objectives of the project are to strengthen the Bonn ecosystem for sustainable development through an integrated approach to knowledge and skills development; elaborate a joined-up research capacity-building strategy through identification and mapping of relevant knowledge gaps and the implementation of corresponding research activities; and improve evidence-based SDG implementation and research uptake by the UN and other development actors through collaboration with partner organizations in Bonn.

## 2023 achievements and results

In 2023, the project focused its efforts on advancing sustainable development through various initiatives, including knowledge generation, capacity building and advisory support, outreach events, publications, multimedia content creation and stakeholder engagement.

Key milestones during this period were the Berlin launch of the German version of the UNRISD 2022 flagship report, *Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract*, on 24 January

2023. The event, co-organized with Robert Bosch Stiftung, saw the participation of Mrs. Sarah Ryglewski, Minister of State to the Federal Chancellor, as well as representatives of the Bundestag and civil society. Over 80 participants convened from various sectors to discuss critical priorities such as tax justice, care work and SDG implementation in the fight against inequality.

Furthermore, the Bonn office actively engaged in advisory and knowledge-sharing activities fostering collaborations and dialogues across various sectors. Key events included co-hosting a roundtable with the Maastricht Sustainability Institute and Friends of Europe, focusing on shaping a new social contract in Europe amidst crises. The office also participated in discussions with Master of Public Health students from Bielefeld University and attended a workshop on armed conflicts and environmental impacts organized by the Hamburg Institute for Advanced Studies. Other engagements included an interactive dialogue with Indigenous Peoples during the Bonn Climate Change Conference, and a panel session for United Nations University students. Additionally, the Bonn office contributed to the BMZ launch of a position paper on reducing inequality for sustainable development.

The office also participated in the GIZ Community of Practice on Economic Transformation for Development (ET4D), fostering collaboration with leading think tanks, development institutions and initiatives who are interested in applying transformative approaches and models in economic development interventions. After a series of online meetings, 25 members of the ET4D Community

of Practice met in-person for the first time during a workshop in May 2023 in Berlin. UNRISD led the discussion on strategic Pillar 1: Global Eco-Social Contract. Two other strategic pillars focused on a Shared Green Deal and More Investment, Less Procurement. The workshop allowed for creative brainstorming and open exchange and achieved consensus within each thematic pillar comprising policy recommendations and exemplary development initiatives on economic transformation for interaction with the G20 and beyond.

In terms of capacity building, the Bonn office organized an online training course titled “The Crises of Inequality”, which successfully engaged over 70 participants, targeting policy makers, development practitioners and activists. This course was in collaboration with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) (see Spotlight below).

The collaboration with GIZ also resulted in the production of a set of Guidance Notes on Reducing Inequalities in Development Cooperation and Practice, including three policy guidance notes on how to address inequalities in policies and interventions targeting climate change and just transitions, social protection, and sustainable and inclusive economic development. The guidance notes offer comprehensive advice on integrating inequalities into the project cycle, covering planning, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Its goal is to assist development cooperation staff from government, the UN or

NGOs in headquarters and country offices in adopting an approach that systematically addresses inequalities and is intersectional in decision making, planning and project implementation. These documents will be published and promoted in 2024.

Throughout the reporting period the Bonn office kept stakeholders informed through various channels, including a biannual newsletter tailored for the Bonn network and a podcast series, titled “Principles of Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract”. As part of the UNRISD #ImagineEquality 60th anniversary campaign, the series consists of 10 episodes featuring insights from experts and activists committed to shaping a fairer and more sustainable world. Each episode focuses on one of UNRISD’s seven principles for a new eco-social contract, exploring how such a contract can effectively break the cycle of inequality and crisis (see box Principles for Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract on p. 82).

Finally, the Bonn programme coordinated and edited publications under the UNRISD Think Piece Series titled “The Time Is Now! Why We Need a New Eco-Social Contract for a Just and Green World”, with five new entries. Through diverse perspectives and experiences, the new blog contributions collectively explore the foundations and potential of an inclusive eco-social contract, highlighting the importance of food justice, diversity and joint social action, the role of diaspora organizations, and new digital compacts, as well as African perspectives on social contracts (see annexes for list of publications).

## 2023 Think Piece Series: “The Time is Now! Why We Need a New Eco-Social Contract for a Just and Green World”



21 March 2023

[Respecting Diversity through Joint Social Action: Experiences of Zambia](#)

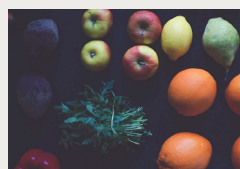
By Njavwa Mbaao



6 April 2023

[The Role of the Diaspora in Creating a New Social Justice Vision for Afghanistan](#)

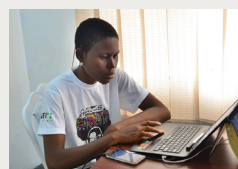
By Sayed Ahmed Fayem Masoumi



11 April 2023

[Putting Food Justice at the Centre of an Eco-Social Contract](#)

By Kiah Smith



27 June 2023

[An Eco-Social Contract for Sustainable Digital Societies](#)

By Ellen Ehmke



29 December 2023

[Reimagining the Social Contract: An African Perspective](#)

By Eseosa Joy Sowemimo

## Online Training Course Targets Policy Makers, Development Practitioners and Activists to Reduce Inequalities in Policy and Practice

From 27–30 November 2023, UNRISD facilitated a practical online training course on “The Crises of Inequality”, providing 77 policy makers, development practitioners and activists relevant knowledge, conceptual approaches, case studies and policy tools for reducing inequalities in policy and practice.

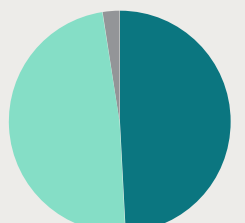
Number of members



Overall evaluation rating

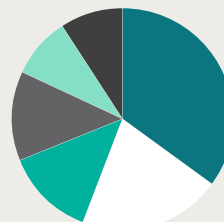


Participants by gender



● Women (49.4%)  
● Men (48.2%)  
● Prefer not to say (2.4%)

Participants by sector



● Academia (35%)  
● NGOs and foundations (21%)  
● Government (13%)  
● Private sector (13%)  
● UN Agencies (9%)  
● Civil society (9%)

The course drew inspiration from the insights and recommendations outlined in UNRISD’s flagship report, *Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract*, to address tangible challenges and facilitate the exchange of experiences, lessons learned and best practices pertinent to the reduction of inequalities. Participants were provided with a platform to engage in discussions on policies and institutional reforms aimed at mitigating inequalities with the goal of outlining a new development model conducive to achieving social, economic and environmental justice.

Structured as four online sessions of three hours each, the course blended traditional lectures with peer learning opportunities. Lectures, featuring insights from UNRISD researchers and subject matter experts, served to impart knowledge on inequalities while peer learning activities fostered small group discussions and open forums for the sharing of experiences. Active participant engagement in group discussions was consistently encouraged throughout each session, with the aim of creating a dynamic and participatory learning environment.

The sessions covered the following topics:

- *Overcoming Inequality in Times of Polycrisis*, by Paul Ladd, Director, UNRISD
- *Success and Failure of Land and Agrarian Reform in Asia: A Social Policy Perspective*, by Ilcheong Yi, Senior Research Coordinator, UNRISD
- *Climate Change, Environmental Crisis and Inequality: Toward Climate Justice*, by Anabella Rosemberg, Research Officer, UNRISD
- *Just Energy Transition Partnerships and Climate (In)Justice*, by Dunja Krause, Research Officer, UNRISD
- *Understanding Inequalities through an Intersectional Lens*, by Francisco Cos Montiel, Senior Research Coordinator, UNRISD
- *Intersectionality and Recent Debates in Feminist Thinking*, by Carolyn Williams, Lead Associate and Founder of Professional Diversity Consultants
- *Political Drivers of Inequality: Toward a New Eco-Social Contract*, by Katja Hujo, Head of Bonn Office and Senior Research Coordinator, UNRISD
- *Making of a Gated City: Elite Power and Urban Inequality*, by Ujithra Ponniah, Senior Researcher at the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS)

According to participant feedback collected from course evaluations, the training received an outstanding average rating of 4.5 out of 5 across different criteria. Participants noted the sessions’ high relevance to their daily work, emphasized the practical applicability of the course content, and reported that the training provided them with new and valuable insights, enriching their overall knowledge base.

## PROJECT

# Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract

Key thematic area	Eco-social contract, knowledge sharing
Geographical focus	Global
Target group / Expected beneficiaries	Activists, policy makers, practitioners, researchers
Project duration	September 2021 – August 2025
Implementing and strategic partners	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Green Economy Coalition, Robert Bosch Stiftung
Donors	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Robert Bosch Stiftung

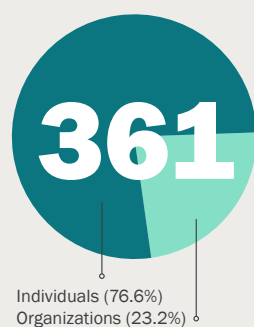
## Overview

UNRISD, in partnership with the Green Economy Coalition (GEC), convenes the Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract (GRAN-ESC). The network brings together research, practice, advocacy and policy communities working for social, climate and environmental justice in a progressive knowledge and action alliance. It aims to broaden understanding around the idea of a new eco-social contract; define its terms, including a just transition to climate resilient, green and fair economies; and identify the actions required of stakeholders at multiple levels to ensure its implementation based on processes that are inclusive, participatory, transparent and accountable. The network members have self-organized into seven working groups that meet once monthly and produce outputs such as webinars, think pieces, briefs and podcasts related to their thematic areas.

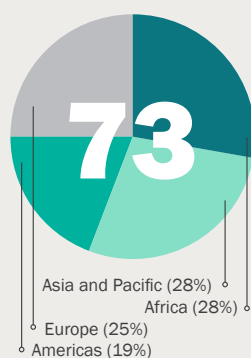
The network has four objectives: create a space for dialogue and debate to co-construct and foster understanding around the idea of a new eco-social contract through intersectional approaches on social, climate and environmental justice; forge consensus around the guiding principles of a new eco-social contract that can be used at the global level and in specific geographies; strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to engage in informed and evidence-based discussion, decision making and practical action for a new eco-social contract; and scale up awareness and support uptake of the role of a new eco-social contract in the transition toward a sustainable and inclusive future by identifying and informing key mechanisms, institutions and processes, such as citizenship education, citizens' assemblies and other deliberative democracy approaches, and climate and ecological literacy.

## At a Glance: Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract

### Number of members



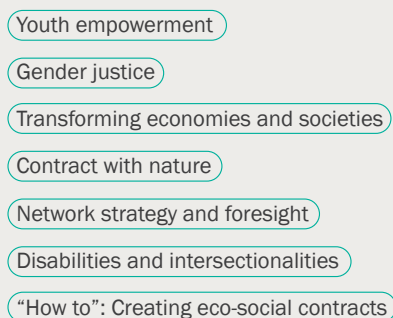
### Countries represented



### Sectors represented



### Working groups



## 2023 achievements and results

Since its inception in 2021, the network has experienced remarkable expansion in its membership, reflecting a dynamic and diverse community committed to collaboration and positive change. During the reporting period, the network welcomed 137 new members, bringing the total number to 361 members from 73 countries. The membership composition of the network is diverse, with the majority hailing from academia, but other significant sectors include NGOs, civil society, the private sector, UN and other specialized agencies, government agencies, philanthropic organizations, social movements and media. In 2023, the network working groups met monthly, and two annual network meetings were organized that provided a platform for members to deliberate on future strategies and collaborations.

In response to demands from network members in 2023, several new working groups were formed based on surveys conducted to assess interest in existing working groups and gauge enthusiasm for new thematic areas, while other groups were merged. The final list of seven working groups encompasses youth empowerment; gender justice; transforming economies and societies; contract with nature; disabilities and intersectionalities; network strategy and foresight; and “how to”: creating eco-social contracts. Two of the working groups published UNRISD Issue Briefs titled “Dismantling the Ecological Divide” and “Informal Workers and Just Transitions”, both of which were widely disseminated and offer critical insights into pressing issues related to eco-social contracts.

Convened by UNRISD and GEC in Bonn in August 2023, the Global Policy Seminar and Call for Papers Conference brought together approximately 200 experts, policy makers, civil society organizations and other stakeholders from over 60 countries to deliberate on the prospects and promise of new eco-social contracts for a sustainable future. The two-day hybrid event featured keynote addresses, plenary sessions, expert panels and presentations. It also marked the launch of the Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts, a compendium of short articles, issue briefs, blogs, podcasts and videos from members of GRAN-ESC, visiting fellows, UNRISD staff and collaborating researchers (see Spotlight below).

In preparation for the Summit of the Future, to be held in 2024, the network helped shape the zero-draft of the Pact for the Future. The network’s recommendations underscore the importance of broadening the understanding of the social contract to include the rights of nature, biodiversity and sustainable development. Importantly, the recommendations also address omissions from the existing “Our Common Agenda” commitments and advocates for the creation of just transition processes, fair fiscal contracts, the equitable phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies, deeper recognition of human rights and the rights of nature, and organized, transparent representation for marginalized groups.

# Global Policy Seminar and Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts



UNRISD and the Green Economy Coalition (GEC) co-organized a two-day Global Policy Seminar in Bonn, Germany, focused on forging a new eco-social contract. The seminar was the first time that network members came together in person since GRAN-ESC's inception in 2021 and featured keynote addresses, plenary sessions, expert panels and presentations. Against the backdrop of escalating global crises, including the Covid-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions and widening inequalities, the seminar explored innovative solutions that prioritize sustainability, equality, justice, peace and resilience.

## Community building and sustainability

We convened nearly 200 participants—experts, policy makers, civil society organizations and other stakeholders from over 60 countries—to deliberate on the prospects and promise of new eco-social contracts for a sustainable future. Community-building, proactive community learning and inclusive engagement were identified as essential drivers

of policy adoption and behaviour change. The stimulating discussions over the course of the two days underscored the urgency of collaborative efforts in the face of climate challenges and multiple global crises.

Day one of the seminar opened with a keynote address by Dr. Ursula Sautter, Deputy Mayor of the City of Bonn, who outlined the city's commitment to sustainability and climate action. Bonn's proactive response to the climate crisis, including declaring a climate emergency, setting a 2035 climate neutrality goal and launching the Bonn4Future participatory process, served as a beacon of inspiration for sustainable urban development.

Day two of the seminar featured a keynote address by former Costa Rica President, Carlos Alvarado Quesada, who shared the country's pioneering journey toward environmental sustainability, emphasizing the principles of decarbonization,



diversification and depolarization. The second day also featured research paper presentations solicited through a call for papers, providing case studies from the global South and analyses of diverse normative perspectives, participatory processes, and challenges and opportunities of implementing new eco-social contracts.

### **New global study on eco-social contracts**

The seminar also marked the launch of the Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts, a compendium of short articles, issue briefs, blogs, videos and podcasts produced by members of GRAN-ESC, visiting fellows, UNRISD staff and collaborating researchers. Each entry explores examples of twenty-first-century eco-social contracts and the processes driving them; draws on pluralistic approaches; produces context-specific solutions and gives renewed visibility to local value systems and communitarian imaginaries; and suggests pathways to harmonize our relationships with nature and future generations. They identify what must be done to ground social contracts in democratic and participatory processes that provide necessary legitimacy and buy-in.

→ [Download the report](#)



## Structure of the study



### Visions

- A New Eco-Social Contract: Vital to Deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Going Beyond the Social Communitarian: Imaginaries as Inspirations for Rethinking the Eco-Social Contract
- Dismantling the Ecological Divide: Toward a New Eco-Social Contract
- Joining Up the Dots Between Social and Climate Justice: Time for a New Eco-Social Contract
- How a Rights-Based Economy Can Help us Overcome the Social, Economic and Environmental Challenges of Our Time

### Participatory Processes

- Towards an Eco-Social Contract in Nepal: The Role of Rights-Based Civil Society Activism
- Informal Workers and Just Transitions: Toward a New Eco-Social Contract
- A New Eco-Social Contract To Address Historical Injustices Faced By Indigenous Peoples
- Remediating Asymmetric Diplomacy at the United Nations: Towards an Eco-Social Contract








### Implementation

- Evaluating Existing Transformations: The Case for a Just Energy Transition
- Climate Change: Threat or Potential Opportunity for Social Contracts in the MENA Region?
- Putting Food Justice at the Centre of an Eco-Social Contract
- Putting Women at the Centre of Sustainable Development: Rethinking the Eco-Social Contract










### Multimedia

#### VIDEOS

-  Why We Need a New Eco-Social Contract for Just and Green Recovery from Covid-19
-  A New Eco Social Contract: Vital to Deliver the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
-  Rethinking the Eco-Social Contract
-  Towards a New Eco-Social Contract: The Case of Nepal and Chile
-  "We Really Need a New Eco-Social Contract", Tarcila Rivera Zea, Quechua Activist
-  Youth-led Solutions for a New Eco-Social Contract
-  Shaping the Eco-Social Contract: Perspectives on Just Energy Transitions from Around the World

#### PODCASTS

-  Why We Need a New Eco-Social Contract: A Conversation with Paul Ladd
-  «Un contrato con la naturaleza», el Pacto Ecosocial del Sur con Breno Bringel
-  SDG 10 (UN): Bekämpfung von Ungleichheit – ein sehr umstrittenes Ziel
-  Human Rights for All and Historical Injustices Addressed, with Imraan Valodia
-  Human Rights for All and Historical Injustices Addressed, with Joseph Ole Simele
-  Historical Injustices Addressed and a New Contract for Nature, with Mrinal Tripura
-  Solidarity: Multilateralism and the Crises of Inequality, with Georgios Kostakos



# About UNRISD

## Our priority areas

- Disaster risk reduction
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Humanitarian assistance
- Measurement and monitoring
- Peace and security
- Resilient infrastructure
- Sustainable development
- Urbanization
- Water, energy and climate

## Our Network

388



- Sustainable Economic Transformation
- Environmental and Climate Justice





# **Communications and Outreach**



# Communications and Outreach

## Overview

Communications is integral to UNRISD's efforts to ensure our progressive research gets to those best positioned to drive transformative change in the field of social development through policy and practice. Communities in our target audience include policy decision makers at the global, national and local levels; civil society advocates and activists; researchers in academia, civil society and public service; and donor and fellow UN organizations. In order to drive transformative change through our research outputs, UNRISD has a dedicated Communications and Outreach Unit (C&O) that is responsible for developing and implementing communication strategies that translate research findings into clear and tailored policy messages and deliver them through the most appropriate channels.

The UNRISD website serves as the main communication channel, providing open access to decades of the Institute's research. C&O's essential function is to ensure high-quality production of a range of written products such as research reports, policy briefs and think pieces that highlight the link between current global challenges and research. Additionally, the Unit's focus is to increase the visibility and impact of research by using multimedia and digital-first content, including maintaining an engaged presence on social platforms, to reach a wider audience. C&O is also responsible for organizing events such as seminars, webinars and international conferences to foster exchange, dialogue and debate. UNRISD's unique access to UN development processes and global networks enables it to raise awareness and promote dialogue on social development issues, ultimately contributing to more just and sustainable societies.

## Objectives

- Effectively produce high-quality research outputs and strengthen UNRISD's messages and identity: Develop and implement a strategy for effectively communicating high-quality research that is tailored to the target audience's needs and interests, with the goal of making research findings and insights accessible and understandable, and contributing to the strengthening of UNRISD's identity and overall research priorities and goals.
- Increase visibility, awareness and use of UNRISD's research: Ensure dissemination of UNRISD's research findings to a wide audience via various channels and establish a strong online presence to increase the visibility, awareness and use of the research.
- Facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing: Create spaces and organize events to facilitate dialogue and the exchange of ideas. Build partnerships and networks with key stakeholders to promote the use of UNRISD research outputs in policy making and advocacy efforts.
- Implement and maintain a strong results-based management strategy and reporting: Ensure the implementation of a systematic results-based strategy that can monitor, evaluate and report the effectiveness of UNRISD's activities in a cycle of continuous learning and improvement.

## Our Team

**Karima Cherif**



Head of Communications and Outreach

**Sergio Sandoval**



Senior Creative Communication Specialist

**Osiamé Molefe**



Editorial and Communications Specialist (Until September 2023)

**David Vergari**



Communications and Programme Management Specialist

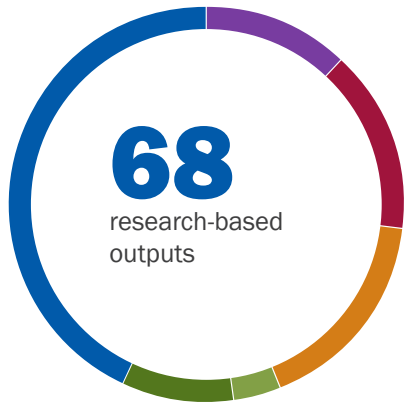
**Nicole Harris**



Editorial Specialist

# C&O Highlights 2023

Effectively produce high-quality research outputs and strengthen UNRISD's messages and identity

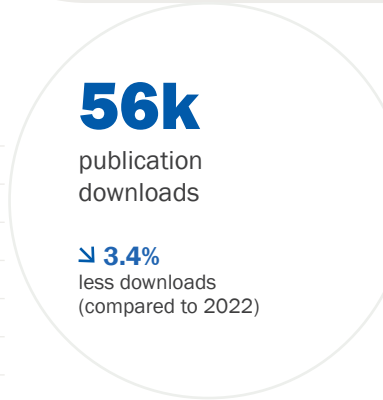


THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION

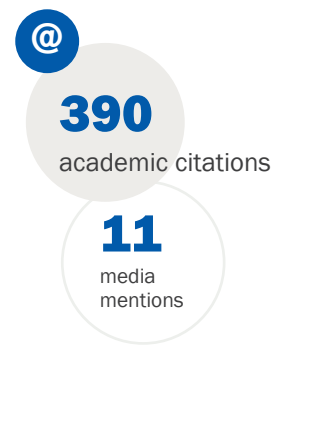
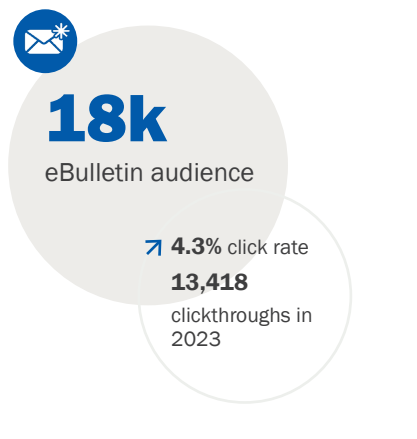
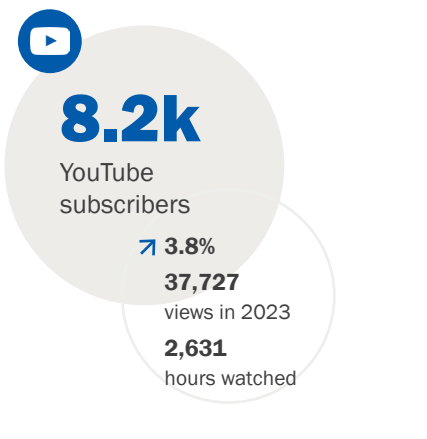
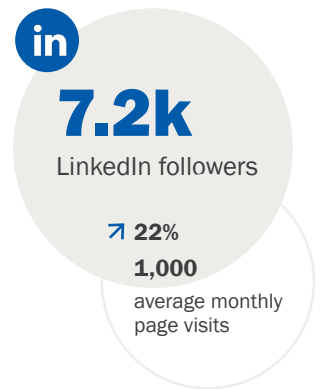
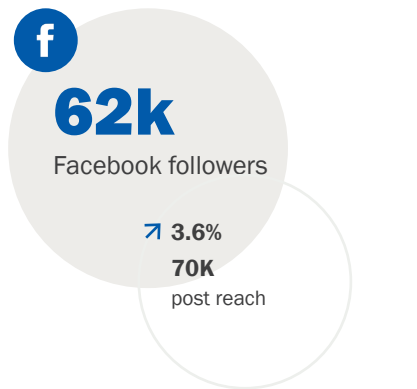
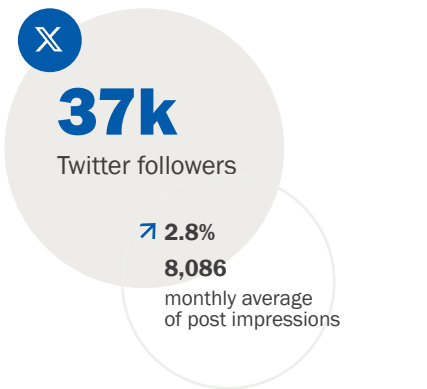
- 12% Alternative Economies for Transformation
- 15% Transformative Social Policy
- 17% Gender Justice and Development
- 4% Environmental and Climate Justice
- 9% Translating Research into Policy and Practice
- 43% Research-Related Activities

OUTPUTS BY TYPE

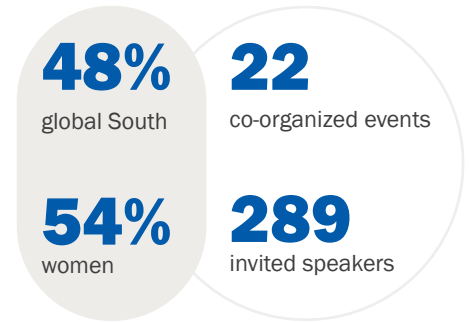
- 10% Reports
- 10% Briefs
- 9% Papers
- 7% Journal articles
- 1% Op-eds
- 15% Blogs and think pieces
- 28% Videos
- 19% Podcasts



Increase visibility, awareness and use of UNRISD's research



Facilitate collaboration and knowledge-sharing



THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY EVENTS

- 39% Alternative Economies for Transformation
- 5% Transformative Social Policy
- 6% Gender Justice and Development
- 8% Environmental and Climate Justice
- 33% Translating Research into Policy and Practice
- 10% Research-Related Activities

TYPE OF INTERDISCIPLINARY EVENTS

- 9% UNRISD events
- 22% Events participation (invited UNRISD staff to speak in external events)
- 69% Advisory activities

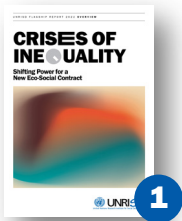
Top 2023\*

• **Publications: Most Read**  
56,806 total downloads

HISTORIC DATA

**Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a NewEco-Social Contract**

📖 5,305



**Understanding the Rise of Anti-Gender Discourses**

📖 2,389



**Sustainability Assessment: A User Manual for the Sustainable Development Performance Indicators**

📖 1,533



SYNCHRONIC DATA

**Understanding the Rise of Anti-Gender Discourses**

May 2023

📖 2,389



**Annual Report 2022**

May 2023

📖 1,068



**Migration and Inequality in the Global South**

Oct 2023

📖 1,065



\* Historical data refers to the most downloaded or visited content in 2023 regardless of when the content was produced and published. Synchronic data refers to outputs produced and published during the reporting year only.

● **Blogs and Think Pieces: Most Read**  
10,388 total views

HISTORIC DATA

**Inequality is a barrier to social justice. Here is how it can be overcome**

👁 745



**Time for a Fourth Generation of Human Rights?**

👁 595



**Addressing the Particular Nexus of Intersectional Discrimination Faced by LBQ Women**

👁 377



SYNCHRONIC DATA

**Inequality is a barrier to social justice. Here is how it can be overcome**

Feb 2023

👁 745



**Addressing the Particular Nexus of Intersectional Discrimination Faced by LBQ Women**

Feb 2023

👁 377



**Putting Food Justice at the Centre of an Eco-Social Contract**

Apr 2023

👁 294



● **Videos: Most Watched**  
37,727 total video views

HISTORIC DATA

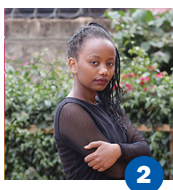
**Oneness vs. The 1%: #VandanaShiva at the United Nations Office at Geneva**

👁 8,787



**Adolescents' Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Kenya**

👁 8,324



**Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing Back the Social**

👁 6,873



SYNCHRONIC DATA

**Shaping the Eco-Social Contract: Perspectives on Just Energy Transitions from Around the World**

Feb 2023

👁 245



**Youth-led Solutions for a New Eco-Social Contract**

Mar 2023

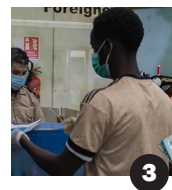
👁 111



**Racism, Xenophobia and Migration Narratives**

Nov 2023

👁 94



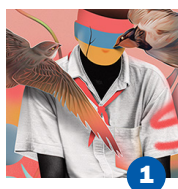
● **Activities: Most Popular**  
57,798 total section hits

SYNCHRONIC AND HISTORIC DATA

**[News] Call for Artists: The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice**

Apr 2023

👁 25,356



**[Event] Research to Action—Global Policy Seminar for a New Eco-Social Contract**

Aug 2023

👁 4,809



**[Event] World Social Work Day 2023—Respecting Diversity Through Joint Social Action**

Mar 2023

👁 3,158



## C&O results

In 2023, the C&O Unit continued its efforts to amplify UNRISD's visibility and impact. Our primary focus was on celebrating the significant milestone of the Institute's 60th anniversary with an engaging campaign. This represented an opportunity not only to celebrate the Institute's legacy but also to refine our stakeholder engagement strategies and explore innovative methods to expand our network of partners. The overarching objective remained to elevate UNRISD's profile and reinforce its pivotal role as a knowledge broker in tackling global inequalities.

To achieve this, the Unit focused on re-designing the annual stakeholder event to foster dialogue among key stakeholders, revitalizing the Institute's brand identity, celebrating its achievements and legacy, and increasing the visibility of its programmes and research outputs through innovative activities and outreach products, such as the successful art exhibition "Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice".

In terms of digital communication, we maintained a robust online presence and expanded our social media follower base. Moreover, the groundwork laid in the previous year facilitated the implementation of an enhanced results monitoring system, which bolstered our planning and reporting capabilities.

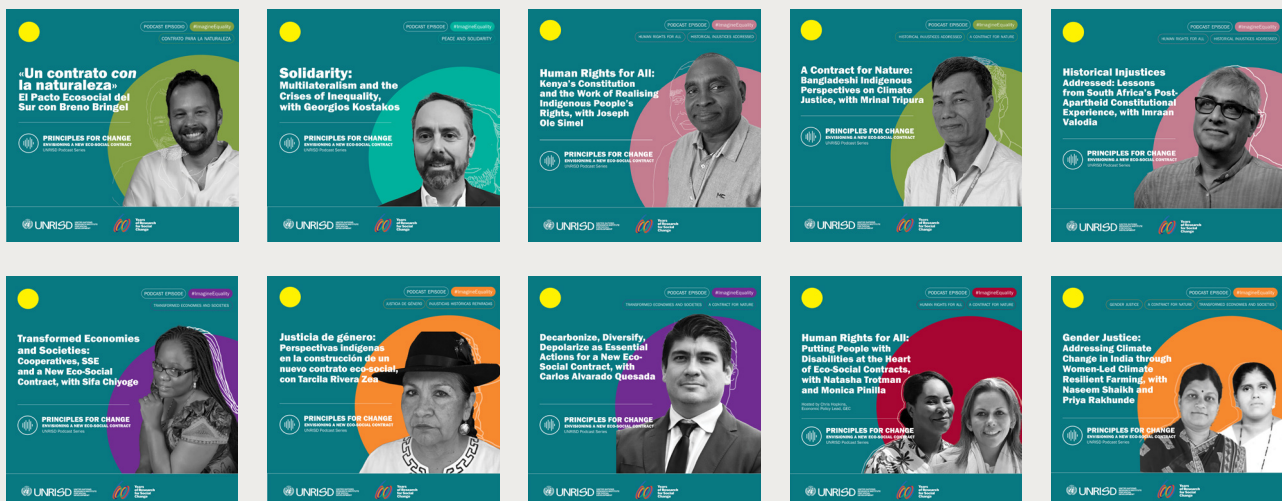
## Effectively produce high-quality research outputs and strengthen UNRISD's messages and identity

In 2023, UNRISD successfully completed its brand refresh process with the launch of the Institute's 60th Anniversary campaign. This process was driven by our vision to enhance the clarity of our messaging and to establish a unified, captivating visual identity that would effectively engage our stakeholders. At the core of this effort was the synchronization of our logo, colour palette and typography, complemented by the creation of a distinctive visual identity for the 60th anniversary and the update of UNRISD's publication templates.

Under this component, C&O continued its efforts to produce and disseminate a wide range of research-based outputs. In 2023, UNRISD produced a total of 68 research-derived outputs, with 46 percent authored from the global South and 58 percent contributed by women. Notably, 81 percent of these outputs were deemed relevant for low-income/least developed countries, while 72 percent addressed gender issues, underscoring UNRISD's commitment to inclusive research practices. Despite experiencing a slight decrease of 3.4 percent in downloads compared to 2022, we reached a total of 56,000 downloads. This decrease can be attributed in part to the higher number of products produced in 2022, notably the high number of entries in the SSE Encyclopedia (57).

### Principles for Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract

"Principles for Change: Envisioning a New Eco-Social Contract" is our latest podcast series, launched in 2023 to celebrate UNRISD's 60th anniversary as part of the #ImagineEquality campaign. In this thought-provoking series, we examine how a new eco-social contract can break the cycle of inequality and crisis. The 10 episodes focused on UNRISD's seven principles for a new eco-social contract and featured insights from experts, scholars, activists, policy makers and others working toward a more just, fair and sustainable future. The series sparked new ways to #ImagineEquality. → [Listen to the series](#)

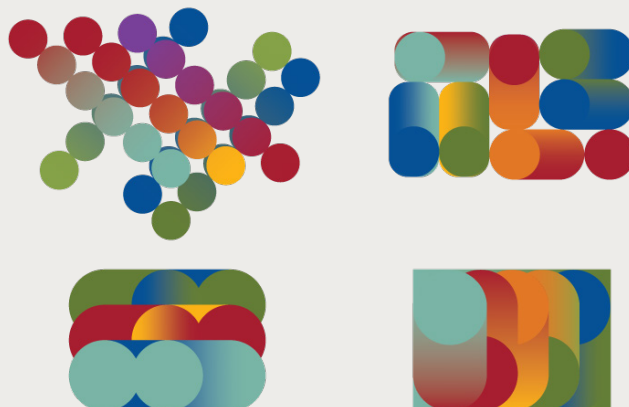


## New UNRISD Logo, colour palette and 60th anniversary badge

### Logotype revision



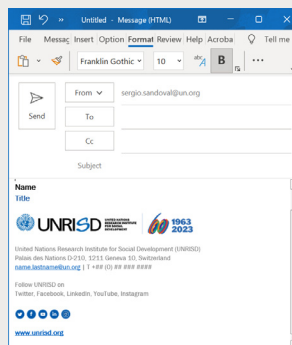
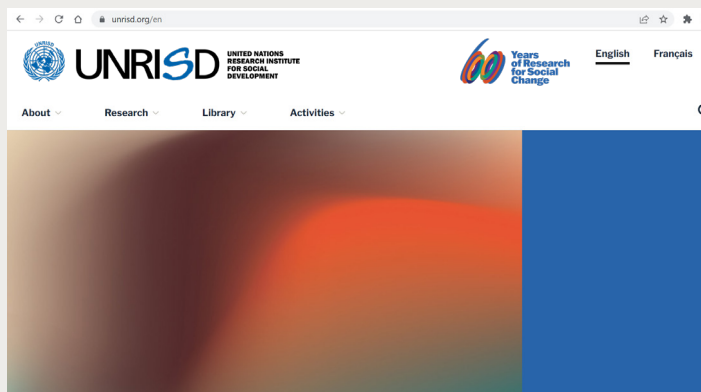
### Color palette



### 60th anniversary badge



### Selected applications



## UNRISD website: Facts and figures from 2023



Multimedia outputs constituted the greatest share of outputs, with 19 videos and 13 podcasts produced, followed by 10 think pieces and blogs, seven books/reports, six working papers, five journal articles, four policy briefs, three issue briefs and one op-ed. See annex 1 for a full list of research outputs and events during the year.

### Increase visibility, awareness and use of UNRISD's research

Using social media and digital platforms to amplify UNRISD's voice

In 2023, UNRISD continued to strengthen its use of digital media to both deliver research and engage with a wider audience. This effort was reflected in the results achieved, with over 56,000 publication downloads, 37,000 video views, an online audience of more than 50,000 website users, 18,000 email subscribers, and a gross online community of over 100,000 followers on social media as of December 2023.

All of UNRISD's social media properties saw an increase in their follower base compared to the previous year, although some growth during the reporting year was slightly below projections. Our Facebook follower base grew 3.6 percent compared to 2022, which translated to 96,183 annual page

impressions and 69,806 post reach. X (formerly Twitter) saw an annual growth in followers of 2.7 percent and generated on average 8,086 monthly post impressions.<sup>6</sup> YouTube subscribers increased by 3.8 percent and UNRISD accrued 37,727 views of its video assets throughout 2023. The most substantive growth in followers was the 22 percent we saw on LinkedIn. With over 7,000 followers and an average of 1,000 profile visits per month, this platform constitutes a dynamic and ever-evolving space in the current media landscape to engage globally with development professionals and practitioners among primary stakeholders, decision makers, and leaders—our key constituencies.

<sup>6</sup> Acquired by Elon Musk in late 2022 and re-branded as X in July 2023, this platform experienced a host of overhauls in the initial months after leadership change. Negative growth was experienced for the UNRISD account during the summer months after its verified badge was revoked. Efforts by the C&O Unit, informed by communications counterparts in UNOG and the UN Communications Group more broadly, secured the instauration of the gray checkmark given to government and multilateral organizations. This badge recovery translated into more predictable behaviour of the network, though some of the performance analytics of 2023 on this platform were made opaque or unavailable.

In April 2023, the Institute launched a new account on Instagram. By the end of the reporting period, 2,000 users followed UNRISD's account. The platform was purposefully populated with news, activities and content that engaged with younger audiences in geographies where visibility of UNRISD research and activities—particularly the art exhibition—was desired, mainly in the regions of Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa. Users between 25 and 34 years old make up 32 percent of the follower base on this platform, whereas 35–44-year-old users represent 27 percent. Overall, the platform generated a strong performance of 404,007 profiles reached and 658,282 post impressions.

To help achieve these results, UNRISD created regular and engaging content; introduced new digital products—such as an interview-based podcast series—and new formats—such as carousel albums and reels; and launched targeted campaigns, such as Champions for Change and #ImagineEquality.

During 2023, C&O created and dispatched four editions of UNRISD's e-Bulletin newsletter to share news, updates and research findings; one tailored digital newsletter to respond to the interests and needs of funding partners, missions and UN development policy actors; two special thematic newsletters on World Social Justice Day and International Women's Day; and two newsletters focused on the information interests and needs of key stakeholders of the UNRISD office in Bonn, Germany. In total throughout the year, 234,715 deliveries were made through email, with an average open rate of 30 percent (70,574) and 13,418 click-throughs.

#### **UNRISD expert knowledge for research uptake**

In 2023, UNRISD continued its efforts to ensure the uptake and impact of its research. Throughout the year, UNRISD recorded an increase in demand for consultative and advisory services. With 217 requests, compared to 181 from last year, UNRISD staff were called upon to advise, consult with, and provide briefings, presentations and seminars to interested parties, as well as participate in expert groups, committees, editorial boards and task teams. Of these, 92 were for UN and specialized agencies. These activities, undertaken in addition to the regular programme of work, strengthen collaboration, help disseminate research

findings, share knowledge with stakeholders, and contribute to new thinking and policy debates on development issues.

UNRISD's research was also widely referenced, with over 300 citations across academic journals, policy reports and news media.

#### **Facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing**

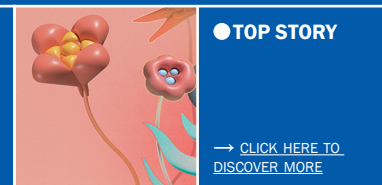
##### **Organizing events to facilitate dialogue and exchange of ideas**

In 2023, UNRISD facilitated meaningful engagement and dialogue through 22 events, either organized or co-organized with various stakeholders. Webinars represented 27 percent of the events organized by UNRISD. They garnered strong participation and elicited interest among key stakeholders, mainly from academia (40.2%), civil society and NGOs (18.8%), government (8.5%) and the UN (8.2%). On average, 137 people attended UNRISD webinars, joining from 48 countries, 27 of which were from the global South. Importantly, 55.5 percent of attendees were women.

Additionally, UNRISD organized and co-organized a diverse array of events, including workshops (18%), side events (14%), and special policy dialogues and seminars (9%). The remainder of our efforts were focused on panels (5%), symposiums (5%), roundtables (5%) and conferences (4%). These events featured the participation of 289 invited speakers, with 48 percent hailing from the global South and 54 percent being women. This serves as a testament to UNRISD's commitment to fostering balanced panel representations and promoting inclusivity within its engagements.

Among the year's event highlights was UNRISD's commemoration of its 60th anniversary through an innovative art exhibition titled "The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice". This milestone occasion was streamed live via Instagram and on the UNOG official website, garnering over 1,800 views, and saw participation from over 40 in-person attendees for the vernissage and more than 100 visitors, including esteemed figures such as the Director-General of UNOG, various UN special ambassadors and a former NBA champion serving as a special ambassador.

# “The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice”



The exhibition is the result of a collaborative effort that transcends borders and unites artists from around the world. These visionaries were selected through the #ImagineEquality global call for artists, which was launched in April 2023 and ran until July 2023.

Over 1,200 submissions were received from visual artists from around the world, each contributing their unique perspectives and talents to illuminate the path toward a more just and equitable world. Together, their voices invite us to hope, take action and unlock our collective imagination. A total of 39 artists and 53 artworks representing 23 countries from six regions were selected for the exhibition.

The artworks were selected taking into account geographical and gender diversity as well as diversity and originality in the messages that align with UNRISD’s five programmes.

The art exhibit, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva from 10–20 October 2023, featured the creative works and expressions of talented artists. It is important to note that the views and perspectives expressed in the artworks displayed in Geneva and reproduced in the catalogue are solely those of the individual artists and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of UNRISD.

**+1,200**  
submissions

**39**  
selected  
artists

**53**  
artworks

**23**  
countries

### The jury

We brought together a panel of 10 global influencers who are passionate about art and social change.



**Gabriela Ramos**

Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO



**Clara Gouy**

UN Geneva Art Collection Manager



**Joseph Fowler**

Head of Arts and Culture at the World Economic Forum



**Lisa Kim**

Director, Ford Foundation Gallery for Social Justice



**Kumi Naidoo**

Human rights and environmental justice activist



**Nina Sky**

Music artists



**el Seed**

Artist



**Joyce DiDonato**

Singer and producer



**Yazmany Arboleda**

The People's Artist for NYC's Civic Engagement Commission



**Ronny Turiaf**

+ JURY CHAIR

+ AWARD SPONSOR

OLY, NBA Champion and founder of Maison Verv'eu Art Residency

Each jury member evaluated the artworks based on three criteria:

- Uniqueness and originality: How distinct and innovative was the approach taken in the artwork?
- Technique and aesthetics: How skilfully was the artwork executed, and how visually appealing was it?
- Message and significance: What meaningful narrative or statement did the artwork convey regarding the chosen theme?

### The special awards

These awards honoured five artists whose works encapsulated the essence of five pivotal themes:



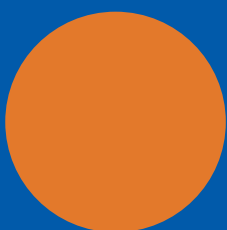
#### Social Justice

This award recognized the artworks that make us think about fairness, accessibility and human rights, ensuring that people reach their full potential.



#### Economic Justice

This award acknowledged artworks that delve into economic disparities, casting light on issues of wealth distribution and equitable economic opportunities.



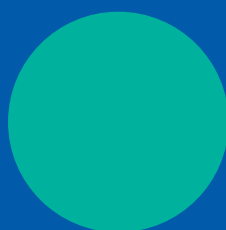
#### Gender Justice

This award shined a spotlight on artworks that spark conversations about gender equality, challenge stereotypes and empower diverse voices.



#### Climate and environmental Justice

This award commended artworks that illuminate the urgency of climate action, raising awareness about sustainability and environmental equity.



#### A new eco-social world

This award recognized artworks that inspire hope and visions of a better world for people and the planet.

In 2023, the majority of UNRISD's events centred around policy dialogues, spanning significant occasions such as the launch of the UNRISD flagship report in Germany, World Social Work Day and the MIDEQ Symposium. In the realm of environmental and climate justice, UNRISD maintained a prominent presence at COP28, hosting two side events. These included discussions on just transition and the intersection of care and climate, led by our Gender Justice and Development programme.

UNRISD also played a key role in maintaining a knowledge-sharing platform with the Global Research and Action Network for a New Eco-Social Contract, organizing an international conference in Bonn to launch a global study compendium on the subject. Finally, our engagement with the UNTFSSSE as part of the Communications Working Group leveraged more than 7,000 global impressions related to the entries published in 2023 of the Social and Solidarity Economy Encyclopedia, contributing to broader awareness and understanding of this crucial topic and visibility of UNRISD's work.

#### **Build and maintain strong partnerships**

In 2023, UNRISD continued to cultivate strong partnerships and expand its network of collaborative researchers to achieve its mission and maximize the impact of its research, with a particular emphasis on the global South. We established new relationships with several key organizations, including governments, civil society organizations, international institutions and universities. These partnerships allowed us to engage more deeply with a broad range of stakeholders and to incorporate their perspectives and experiences into our research.

UNRISD also strengthened its relationship with its network of collaborating researchers, which reached 412 this year: 47 percent from the global South and 56 percent women. These researchers play a crucial role in the organization's research and dissemination efforts. In addition, UNRISD

engaged with 317 authors that contributed to our research, out of which 59 percent were women and 46 percent were from the global South. Moreover, UNRISD actively engaged with 289 experts who participated in our panels, with 54 percent being women and 48 percent representing the global South. This engagement further amplifies the diverse voices and perspectives incorporated into our discussions and represents our dedication to fostering equitable representation within our networks.

Knowledge sharing events and interactive engagement activities are another tool for fostering partnerships and engaging stakeholders. In this context, as part of the Institute's 60th anniversary celebration, we revamped our annual stakeholder meeting, introducing a new interactive approach. The event convened over 40 key partners under the theme "Building Alliances to Overcome Inequalities" (see box below).

#### **Implement and maintain a strong results-based management strategy and reporting**

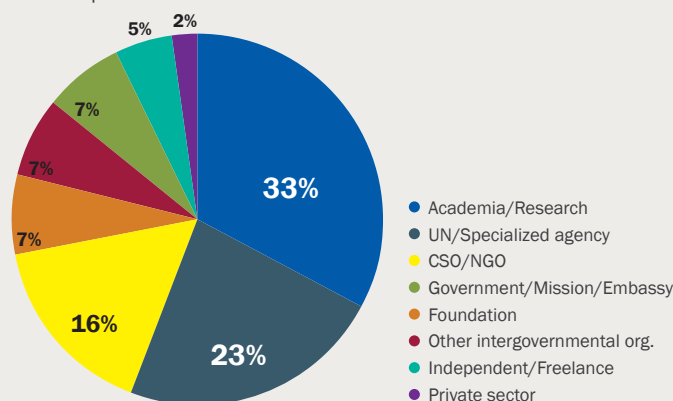
In 2022, the C&O Unit achieved a significant milestone by thoroughly reviewing and enhancing our results-based management strategy and reporting system. This revamped approach facilitated the systematic collection of results, empowering us to continuously monitor, evaluate and report on the effectiveness of UNRISD's initiatives. As a result, our planning processes became more refined, and we achieved greater efficiency in tracking and reporting our progress, significantly alleviating the reporting burden.

Furthermore, the redesigned structure of our report, strategically crafted in 2022 to enhance its utility as a communication tool, bore fruit in 2023. It garnered remarkable attention, ranking among the top three most-read publications, with over 1,000 downloads. This success underscores the newfound potential of our annual report as a crucial instrument for effectively communicating our outcomes and impact to stakeholders and the broader public.

## A celebration of 60 years of UNRISD: Building alliances to overcome inequalities

On 28 June, UNRISD convened partners, collaborators, guests and staff at the UN Office in Geneva and online for our annual stakeholder event. This year's gathering was held in celebration of the Institute's 60th anniversary, and kicked off a series of activities honouring UNRISD's 60 years of fulfilling a unique role as the only UN agency devoted exclusively to transformative, evidence-based and sustainable approaches to social development.

Sectors represented



Top 10 expertise areas represented



### Highlights and key takeaways

During the event, attendees had the privilege of engaging with a diverse group of stakeholders deeply committed to addressing global challenges and overcoming inequalities. Together, we explored multidimensional approaches to tackle pressing social issues and promote sustainable development. The discussions revolved around the intersectionality of various dimensions, including gender, environmental, social and economic justice. We showcased 13 exemplary initiatives driving positive change and collectively developed 18 recommendations for promoting sustainable development and ensuring social justice in our rapidly changing world.

Moreover, the event provided a unique networking platform, facilitating connections among participants from various sectors, organizations and regions. These connections are invaluable in fostering collaboration and amplifying our collective impact.

### Initiatives showcased

- Gender justice
  - Integrating parity, care and gender justice in the new Constitution in Chile · Presenter: Irune Aguirrezabal, Director of the Ibero-American Program on Human Rights, Democracy and Equality, Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos (OEI)
  - Understanding the rise of anti-gender discourses in the context of development, human rights and social protection · Presenter: Lata Narayanaswamy, Researcher, University of Leeds
  - The importance of intersectionality to counteract arguments and policies that restrict the rights of women, LGBTIQ+ people · Presenter: Haley Mcewen, Researcher, University of Gothenburg
- Environmental and climate justice
  - State of resilience in Africa · Presenter: Renata Jagustovic, Climate Services and Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist, UNDP
  - From climate philanthropy to climate justice philanthropy · Presenter: Amanda Gigler, Co-Chair, EDGE Funders Alliance
  - Just transition · Presenter: Vicente Paolo Yu, International Lawyer, Fossil Fuels Non Proliferation Treaty
- Social justice
  - Digitizing social protection using digital global goods and standards · Presenter: Saurav Bhattarai, Advisor at the Global Initiative Social Protection Innovation and Learning at GIZ
- Migration research to help overcome inequalities · Presenter: Marie McAuliffe, Head of the Migration Research and Publications Division, IOM
- Southern perspectives on inequality research: Gender-just transitions and the future of work · Presenter: Julia Taylor, Researcher Climate Change & Inequality, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, Wits University
- Economic justice
  - Globalization of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) at local level · Presenter: Laurence Kwark, Former Secretary General, Global Forum for Social and Solidarity Economy (GSEF)
  - UN resolution on the SSE and the initiatives of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on the SSE (UNTFSSSE) · Presenter: Chantal Line Carpentier, Head, Trade, Environment, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development, UNCTAD
  - Application of integrated approach to operation on the ground: Integrated area-based project: Strengthening livelihood security for peace and recovery · Presenter: Jos De La Haye, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Sudan
  - ESG indicators and "Own the Metrics" campaign · Presenter: Michael Peck, Executive Director & Co-founder of 1Worker1Vote, American Sustainable Business Network (ASBN)

# The Way Forward



In 2023 we commenced celebrations of UNRISD's 60th anniversary of advancing social change through research and evidence. This milestone recognizes not only the Institute's contributions to social development but also provides an opportunity to reflect on our future direction.

UNRISD's strategy, *Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract*, has guided the Institute's work for the last three years, with a focus on co-producing knowledge, evidence and analysis while privileging the voices of the marginalized to reduce inequalities and build a new eco-social contract. This strategy increased our visibility and coherence, putting us in a position to make meaningful contributions to important multilateral processes such as the SDG mid-point review in 2023, the Summit of the Future in 2024 and the World Social Summit slated for 2025. Indeed, the Institute is already starting to make plans on how it can best support the World Social Summit in 2025, which will be co-facilitated by Belgium and Morocco.

Financial uncertainty continues to pose a significant challenge. Like other entities within the United Nations system, UNRISD has experienced a decline in core funding, with financial support increasingly being earmarked and more narrowly specified. This trend undermines UNRISD's autonomy and our ability to invest in critical research that amplifies marginalized voices and challenges the status quo.

Despite this challenge, UNRISD continues to develop exciting proposals that cover innovative areas related to our research programmes. The Institute will approach both new and existing partners for support in 2024, leveraging our unique position within the UN system and strong connections with the global academic community.

The next Director of the Institute, to be appointed by the UN Secretary-General in 2024, will bring new ideas, networks and energy to a unique part of the United Nations family, and in doing so help set the direction of UNRISD's contribution to social development for the next 60 years.

# Annexes

## Annex 1. List of events and research outputs

### External publications and co-publications

#### Books, reports

1. Cuidados y ecofeminismo. Consolidar avances y construir futuros igualitarios en Latinoamérica | 7 March 2023 | Francisco Cos Montiel et al | Fundación Carolina
2. Encyclopedia of the Social and Solidarity Economy | 28 April 2023 | Ilcheong Yi et al | Edward Elgar Publishing
3. Deseo y conflicto. Política sexual, prácticas violentas y victimización | 28 October 2023 | Francisco Cos Montiel et al | Fondo de Cultura Económica
4. Investments in Childcare for Gender Equality in Asia and the Pacific | 1 August 2023 | Francisco Cos Montiel et al | ILO, ADB, UNDP, UNRISD

#### Chapter in book

5. Chapter 5: Just transition: the tension between work, employment and climate change | 10 February 2023 | Jo Cutter, Vera Trappmann, and Dunja Krause | Edward Elgar Publishing

#### Journal and op-ed articles

6. Gesichter der Ungleichheit | 1 Jan 2023 | Katja Hujo | In Weitwinkel, Sodi, 2023 (1): 4-6
7. Stimmen zu Herausforderungen der Wissensvermittlung | 20 June 2023 | Katja Hujo et al | Vereinte Nationen Heft, 3 2023, 118-119
8. My Journey to The Social and Solidarity Economy | 8 July 2023 | Ilcheong Yi | Ripess Europe
9. The UN's assessment tool to measure the SDGs achievement by the enterprises: SDPI | 20 July 2023 | Eun Sun Lee, Ilcheong Yi | Korea Legislation Research Institute
10. Communicating policy-oriented research: Insights from a research institute in the UN | 27 September 2023 | Katja Hujo | Global Social Policy, 23(3), 519-522.

#### Podcasts

11. Shifting Power in an Unequal World - a conversation with Katja Hujo and Maggie Carter. | 27 January 2023 | UN Library Podcast Series The Next Page, February 2023
12. Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract: Tackling Global Inequality | 24 May 2023 | Katja Hujo | Global Research Programme on Inequality
13. UNnachhaltig #2.1 - SDG-10 (UN) Bekämpfung von Ungleichheit - ein sehr umstrittenes Ziel. Deutsche Gesellschaft für die Vereinten Nationen | 8 April 2023 | Isabell Kempf, Katja Hujo | Deutsche Gesellschaft für die Vereinten Nationen

#### Videos

14. Francisco Cos-Montiel: «Tenemos que comprometernos con la paridad de géneros en la producción» | 6 April 2023 | CLACSO TV
15. Interview with Katja Hujo, Senior Research Coordinator at UNRISD | 11 July 2023 | Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy

## In-house publications and other outputs

### Reports

16. UNRISD Annual Report 2022 | 30 May 2023
17. Global Study on New Eco-Social Contracts | 28 August 2023 | Isabell Kempf, Katja Hujo and Rafael Ponte (eds.) | UNRISD and Green Economy Coalition (GEC)
18. Migration and Inequality in the Global South: Evidence from the MIDEQ Hub | 11 October 2023 | Katja Hujo et al | UNRISD and MIDEQ (Migration for Development and Equality)

### Working papers

19. Childcare Investments in the Philippines | 24 January 2023 | Excelsa C. Tongson with Ana Marie G. Antonio and Amanda Lee R. Centeno
20. Historic Breakthrough for Social and Solidarity Economy at the International Labour Organization | 25 January 2023 | Hamish Jenkins
21. Toward Good Practice: A Review of Money Advice Services and Debt Management Systems in Ireland, the United Kingdom, France and Germany | 27 January 2023 | Stuart Stamp
22. Credit Counselling and Debt Management Services in the United States | 27 January 2023 | Gyeongmin Park
23. Australian Money Advice and Debt Management System | 27 January 2023 | Seajin Kim
24. The international anti-gender movement. Understanding the rise of anti-gender discourses in the context of development, human rights and social protection | 31 May 2023 | Haley McEwen, Lata Narayanaswamy

### Issue briefs

25. Dismantling the Ecological Divide: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract | 18 January 2023 | Najma Mohamed, Patrick Huntjens
26. Ecofeminism in Brazil: Lessons Learned for Future Research | 17 March 2023 | Fabio Velez
27. Informal Workers and Just Transitions: Toward a New Eco-Social Contract | 23 August 2023 | Mauro Pucheta et al

### Policy briefs

28. Krisen der Ungleichheit: Machtstrukturen ändern für einen neuen ökosozialen Gesellschaftsvertrag | 24 January 2023 | Katja Hujo, Maggie Carter
29. Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract—Research and Policy Brief | 25 April 2023 | Katja Hujo, Maggie Carter
30. Indicators that Matter: Towards Authentic Sustainability Reporting | 25 May 2023 | Peter Utting, Zhen Lee
31. Just Energy Transition Partnerships: Toward a Collective Assessment | 1 December 2023 | Anabella Rosemberg, Dunja Krause

### Think pieces

32. Addressing the Particular Nexus of Intersectional Discrimination Faced by LBQ Women | 7 February 2023 | Rosie Brighthouse
33. Inequality is a barrier to social justice. Here is how it can be overcome | 17 February 2023 | Katja Hujo
34. Technology, Gender and Inequality in the 21st Century | 13 March 2023 | Francisco Cos Montiel
35. Respecting Diversity through Joint Social Action: Experiences of Zambia | 21 March 2023 | Njavwa Mbao
36. The Role of the Diaspora in Creating a New Social Justice Vision for Afghanistan | 6 April 2023 | Sayed Masoumi
37. Putting Food Justice at the Centre of an Eco-Social Contract | 11 April 2023 | Kiah Smith
38. Towards a Sustainable Care Economy in South Asia: Exploring the Challenges and Opportunities | 30 May 2023 | Nawshin Tabassum

39. Respecting Diversity through Joint Social Action: Insights from the 2023 World Social Work Day at the UN | 8 June 2023 | Njawa Mbaio
40. An Eco-Social Contract for Sustainable Digital Societies | 27 June 2023 | Ellen Ehmke
41. Reflecting on UNRISD's 60 Years of Research for Social Change | 1 August 2023 | Azita Berar Awad

#### Videos

42. Shaping the Eco-Social Contract: Perspectives on Just Energy Transitions from Around the World | 22 February 2023
43. Youth-led Solutions for a New Eco-Social Contract | 22 March 2023
44. „Let Us Bundle Our Arrows“. Indigenous Reflection by Hilary Weaver—WSWD 2023 | 4 May 2023
45. Co-Building an Eco-Social World: Towards Cosmocentric Consciousness by Vishanthie Sewpaul—WSWD 2023 | 4 May 2023
46. Not So Exceptional: (In)Visibilities, Crisis and the Future by Kristín Loftsdóttir—WSWD 2023 | 4 May 2023
47. Towards Inclusive Social Contracts: Promoting Migrant Rights and Diversity—WSWD 2023 | 4 May 2023
48. Care and Eco-Feminism: Consolidating Advances and Building Egalitarian Futures in Latin America | 5 May 2023
49. Research for social change: Panel discussion on UNRISD's journey and what lies ahead | 10 July 2023
50. 60 Years of UNRISD | 10 July 2023
51. Investments in Childcare for Gender Equality in Asia and the Pacific | 01 August 2023
52. HIGHLIGHTS | Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice | UNRISD 60 Anniversary | 17 October 2023
53. OPENING CEREMONY | The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice | UNRISD 60 Anniversary | 1 November 2023
54. Addressing inequalities through migration in the Global South: An intersectional perspective | 4 December 2023
55. Poverty, Income Inequalities and Migration in the Global South | Policy Symposium on Migration | 4 December 2023
56. Gender Inequalities and Migration in the Global South | Policy Symposium on Migration | 4 December 2023
57. Racism, Xenophobia and Migration Narratives | Policy Symposium on Migration | 4 December 2023
58. Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs): What Do We Need to Know to Assess Them? | 7 December 2023

#### Podcasts

59. «Un contrato con la naturaleza», el Pacto Ecosocial del Sur con Breno Bringel | 7 July 2023
60. Solidarity: Multilateralism and the Crises of Inequality, with Georgios Kostakos | 25 July 2023
61. Human Rights for All: Kenya's Constitution and the Work of Realising Indigenous People's Rights, with Joseph Ole Simel | 11 August 2023
62. Justicia de género: Perspectivas indígenas en la construcción de un nuevo contrato ecosocial, con Tarcila Rivera Zea | 25 August 2023
63. Historical Injustices Addressed: Lessons from South Africa's Post-Apartheid Constitutional Experience, with Imraan Valodia | 8 September 2023
64. A Contract for Nature: Bangladeshi Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Justice, with Mrinal Tripura | 15 September 2023
65. Transformed Economies and Societies: Cooperatives, SSE and a New Eco-Social Contract, with Sifa Chiyoge | 22 September 2023
66. Transformed Economies and Societies: Decarbonize, Diversify, Depolarize as Essential Actions for a New Eco-Social Contract, with Carlos Alvarado Quesada | 6 October 2023

67. Human Rights for All: Putting People with Disabilities at the Heart of Eco-Social Contracts, with Natasha Trotman and Monica Pinilla | 9 November 2023
68. Gender Justice: Addressing Climate Change in India through Women-Led Climate Resilient Farming, with Naseem Shaikh and Priya Rakhunde | 24 November 2023

### **UNRISD (Co-)organized Events**

#### **Art Exhibitions**

1. The Art of Equality: A Journey to Justice | 10 October 2023 | Geneva, Palais des Nations

#### **Conferences**

2. World Social Work Day 2023—Respecting Diversity Through Joint Social Action | 15 March 2023 | Online
3. Research to Action—Global Policy Seminar for a New Eco-Social Contract | 29 August 2023 | UN Campus, Bonn | Hybrid

#### **Panels**

4. Launch of the Global Digital Community on Care | Mexico City | Hybrid

#### **Roundtables**

5. RE-NEGOTIATE: A New Social Contract in an Age of Crisis | 20 January 2023 | St. Jan's Church in Maastricht, The Netherlands | Hybrid

#### **Seminars**

6. University of Witwatersrand Seminar: Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract | 22 June 2023 | Johannesburg, South Africa | Hybrid

#### **Side events**

7. CSW-67 Side event: High-level Interactive Dialogue on Innovation and technological change to advance the care agenda | 15 March 2023 | New York, United Nations Headquarters | Hybrid
8. Investing in the Future: Transforming Financing for the Paris Agreement and Development Goals | 5 December 2023 | Expo City Dubai, United Arab Emirates
9. Gender Just Climate Transitions: Global Perspectives on the Implications for Land Rights and the Care Economy | 5 December 2023 | Expo City Dubai, United Arab Emirates

#### **Special policy dialogues**

10. Berlin Presentation of the UNRISD 2022 flagship report—Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract | 24 January 2023 | Robert Bosch Stiftung, Berlin, Germany | Hybrid
11. Rethinking Social Development for People and Planet: Club de Madrid's Annual Policy Dialogue 2023 - Working Group 1: System Change for Economic Transformation | 13 November 2023 | Brasília, Brazil

#### **Symposiums**

12. Migration and Inequality in the Global South—Geneva Policy Symposium | 12 October 2023 | Palais des Nations, Geneva | Hybrid

#### **Webinars**

13. Shaping the Eco-Social Contract: Perspectives on Just Energy Transitions from Around the World | 22 February 2023 | Online
14. Youth-led Solutions for a New Eco-Social Contract | 22 March 2023
15. Advancing Authentic Sustainability from the Global Social Economy Perspective | 25 May 2023 | Online

16. Presentation of the UNTFSSSE Encyclopedia, EMES Book Series | 31 May 2023 | Online
17. Understanding the Rise of Anti-Gender Discourses in the Context of Development, Human Rights and Social Protection | 23 November 2023 | Online
18. Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs): What do we need to know to assess them? | 7 December 2023 | Online

#### Workshops

19. A Celebration of 60 Years of UNRISD: Building Alliances to Overcome Inequalities | 28 June 2023 | Palais des Nations, Geneva | Hybrid
20. Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETP): Openings, Challenges and Alternatives. Exchange between researchers and practitioners | 10 July 2023 | Online
21. Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs). Toward a collective assessment | 26 September 2023 | Online
22. Invitation to a Workshop on the Integrated Approach to Fragile and Conflict Affected Countries | 22 November 2023 | Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea, Geneva

## Annex 2. RBM Logframe

UNRISD's overall goal under the 2021–2025 institutional strategy, *Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract*, is to contribute to a better understanding of and greater pluralism in transformative policies, practices and approaches to social development. The Institute's contributions come in the form of evidence, analysis, ideas and strategies—co-produced with our research networks and relevant stakeholders—that can shape debates, policy formulation and practices. The focus of our work during this period is on reducing inequalities and fostering more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development outcomes.

To achieve this goal, the UNRISD strategy defines five specific objectives for the period relating to research and capacity building, networking and communications, and resource mobilization and governance. Performance towards these objectives is tracked by indicator.

### Specific objectives

1. Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.
2. Contribute to the capacity development of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of sustainable development issues through co-design of research methods and a mutual learning approach.
3. Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development.
4. Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.
5. Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.

### Analysis of 2023 performance by indicator

Out of a total of 30 performance targets in 2023, 26 were reached and exceeded while 4 were below target. The table below provides a detailed summary and a brief analysis of performance by indicator toward our objectives is provided in this section.

#### 1. Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development

In 2023, we made significant progress toward this objective. Despite the lower outputs production, we achieved excellent results in the number and percentage of women in our network and research activities relevant to LICs/LDCs. We also surpassed the target for the number and percentage of the network from the global South and the known number of bibliographic citations of research outputs.

**1.1. Size of the network involved in projects and activities (target: 203):** This year, our network of research collaborators involved in projects and activities exceeded the target by 100 percent, with a total of 412 research collaborators.

**1.2. Number and percentage of network from the global South (target: 115 / 50%):** We significantly surpassed the annual total target, with 193 collaborators coming from the global South. Although we did not reach the percentage target, we continued to make steady progress, with 47 percent in 2023, up from 40 percent and 37 percent from the previous two years.

**1.3. Number and percentage of women in the network (target: 115 / 50%):** In 2022, 230 of our collaborators were women, which is significantly more than the targeted total of 115. This represented 56 percent of our network, in line with our performance in the prior year and beyond the 50 percent target.

**1.4. Total number of research outputs (target: 90):** This year we produced a total of 76 research outputs produced, which is 15 percent less than targeted. This year's lower production is due to some of the projects' transition phases as well as the focus on institutional activities like the 60th anniversary.

**1.5. Percentage of research activities that include analysis and evidence relevant for LICs/LDCs (target: 80):** We met our target by ensuring that 81 percent of our research activities were relevant to LICs/LDCs.

**1.6. Number of peer-reviewed publications (target: 12):** This year, the official peer-reviewed publications totalled 10, 16 percent below the targeted number. Despite this slight shortfall, UNRISD witnessed a notable surge in demand for advisory support, recording a remarkable 49 percent increase. This translated to 164 participations in advisory activities, with 87 of them involving informal consultations and peer reviews.

**1.7. Known number of bibliographic citations of research outputs (target: 100):** This year we overachieved with 390 citations, including 11 media citations.

## 2. Develop the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues

We made significant progress in 2023 toward developing the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues. We surpassed our target for the number of collaborators from the global South and achieved higher percentages of contributors to research outputs from the global South compared to the previous years. The percentage of women in our network still exceeded the set target. Our progress in invited event participants from the global South increased from the previous year, and we achieved great success in inviting women participants. UNRISD remains committed to ensuring equal participation from the global South and promoting gender equality in all its activities.

**2.1. Number and % of network from the global South (target: 115 / 50%):** Refer to explanation under indicator 1.2.

**2.2. Percentage of contributors to research outputs from the global South (target 40%):** This year we exceeded the target with 46 percent of contributors to research outputs coming from the global South, which was an increase from the 33 percent (2022) and 28 percent (2021) of the previous two years. This reflects UNRISD's increased efforts to prioritize researchers from the global South when assembling teams to produce research outputs.

**2.3. Percentage of contributors to research outputs who are women (target 40%):** 59 percent of our research outputs came from women. This far exceeds our target of 40 percent.

**2.4. Percentage of invited event participants from the global South (target: 50%):** In 2023, 48 percent of all speakers and active discussants at our events came from the global South. While this is lower than the targeted 50 percent, it still records an increase of 4 percent from 2022. Limitations remains in the control of the choice of speakers in larger co-hosted events.

**2.5. Percentage of invited event participants who are women (target 50%):** We reached our target, with 54 percent of participants in our event discussions and panels being women.

## 3. Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development

Overall, we have made progress in our efforts to promote sustainable development and influence policies and practices. Despite not meeting the target of 70 research products, we achieved significant growth in downloads of publications from our website. There have been some areas of underperformance, particularly in terms of visits to the UNRISD website from the global South and podcast downloads. But we have

seen positive growth in our social media following and have exceeded our targets for UN inter-agency collaboration. While there is, overall, room for improvement, UNRISD made significant strides toward this objective in 2023.

**3.1. Number of research-derived products aimed at policy, advocacy and practice community (target: 70):**

Despite the high number of podcasts and videos this year, the total number of research-derived products reached 49, 30 percent below target. This is partly due to the focus on the 60th anniversary and related activities.

**3.2. Number of downloads of publications from the UNRISD website (PDF downloads) (target: 40,000):**

This year, the number of downloads reached 56,000, exceeding 40 percent, the set target. The higher numbers reflect the engagement with the 60th anniversary and related promotional-related activities.

**3.3. Percentage of visits to UNRISD website from the global South (target 50%):** Although the performance against this indicator falls below the set target, with 40.3 percent of visits originating from the global South, there's an encouraging increase of 5 percent from last year. On a positive note, we observed a noteworthy overall increase of 20 percent in website visits.

**3.4. Number of (a) video views and (b) podcast downloads (target 20,000 / 10,000):** In 2023, the UNRISD YouTube channel reached 37,727 views. This figure doesn't incorporate additional views from social media platforms such as Instagram, which would potentially add another 7,000 views. Additionally, podcast downloads reached 518, influenced by the migration to a new content management system and podcast management tool (ACAST). Downloads from other platforms like Spotify are not factored in. Given these changes, we propose revising the target to align with our updated methodology.

**3.5. Number of Twitter followers (total) (target +5%) and number of Facebook likes (total) (target +5%):**

All of UNRISD's social media channels saw an increase in their follower base compared to the previous year, although some growth during the reporting year was slightly below the 5 percent target. Facebook grew 3.6 percent compared to 2022, which translates to 96,183 annual page impressions and 69,806 post reach. X (formerly Twitter) saw an annual growth in followers of 2.7 percent and generated on average 8,086 monthly post impressions. The most substantive growth was the 22 percent we saw on LinkedIn, with over 7,000 followers and an average of 1,000 profile visits per month. In Q2 2023, the Institute launched a new account on Instagram, reaching 2,000 followers by the end of the year.

**3.6. Number of UN inter-agency strategic coordination, collaboration and exchange mechanisms/meetings in which UNRISD has a presence (target: 10):** UNRISD significantly overperformed on this target in 2023 with 42 activities. The large increase compared to the past two years was due to the improved accessibility of UN inter-agency meetings through more options for online participation.

**3.7. Number of contributions to training and learning materials (inputs+days+webinars) (target 30):** This year, UNRISD engaged actively in the promotion and implementation of 22 training and capacity building activities, 26% below target.

**3.8. Number of advisory activities with UN / specialized agencies and invited participation in events (target 40):** UNRISD's active participation in advisory activities surpassed the set target by 25 percent, with a total of 50 activities.

**4. Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate**  
UNRISD performed well toward this objective in 2023 by convening and catalysing interdisciplinary engagement and knowledge sharing through co-organizing events with UN, civil society and multisectoral partners. Despite the slight underperformance on the percentage of events held in international settings or UN hubs, UNRISD had a presence in double the number of intergovernmental meetings than the set target. The positive results reflect UNRISD's active role and demand in various UN task forces and our contribution to constructive debate and knowledge sharing.

**4.1. Number of events (co-)organized by UNRISD (target 12):** This year, we co-organized a total of 22 events, surpassing our set target by an impressive 80 percent. This success can be attributed in part to the streamlined organization of online events, as well as our enhanced engagement with the Institute's extensive network of collaborators and partners.

**4.2. Percentage of events with UN, civil society or multisectoral partners (target 50%):** UNRISD overperformed on this indicator with a total 86 percent of events. The positive results confirm UNRISD convening power and track record in engaging in dialogue with a variety of stakeholders to bridge across research, policy and practice communities.

**4.3. Percentage of events in international settings/UN hubs (target 75%):** In 2023, 59 percent of the 22 co-organized events were held in international settings, 21 percent below target. The lower figure compared to the target is due to a higher number of co-hosted events with local universities and local or regional organizations.

**4.4. Number of intergovernmental meetings where UNRISD has a presence (organization/participation including side events) (target 6):** With 16 advisory activities taking place this year, UNRISD's performance was more than double the set target. This reflects our active role in various UN task forces, as well as active engagement in the COP28, the HLPF and events of other UN agencies.

## 5. Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance

2023 was a challenging financial year for UNRISD. Due to the withdrawal of Switzerland (SDC) and Sweden (Sida), UNRISD lost approximately USD 1.1 million of funding. Reserves decreased by approximately USD 723,000, reflecting some replacement through resource mobilization and cost savings. The ground was laid for additional fundraising in 2024. With the appointment of Naila Kabeer, the percentage of women on the Board increased and the number of regions represented was maintained stayed at six, surpassing the targeted four. A key highlight was the 2023 stakeholder meeting and its new interactive format.

**5.1. Amount of funding received (target USD 2.5m) / Amount of reserves (target USD 1m):** 2023 was a year in which we expected reserves to decline, as a result of the withdrawal of Switzerland (SDC) and Sweden (Sida). We ended the year with a reserve of USD 1.1 million compared to the USD 1 million target. Resource mobilization has been identified as a significant risk and is discussed in further detail in section 11.3 above.

**5.2. Stakeholder meeting(s) held (target 1):** In 2023, a hybrid stakeholder meeting was held in June, drawing approximately 40 participants representing partners from Geneva and beyond who attended in person. As outlined in our 2022 plans, this year's stakeholder meeting was crafted with a new methodology, featuring more engaging and interactive activities designed to foster deeper participation and collaboration (see box A celebration of 60 years of UNRISD: Building alliances to overcome inequalities, under C&O).

**5.3. Percentage of women on Board (target 50%):** Despite falling slightly below the target, the representation of women on the board has increased to 43 percent, up from 29 percent last year, primarily due to the recent appointment of Naila Kabeer.

**5.4. Number of regions represented on Board (target 4):** The number of regions represented on the Board stood at 6, which is more than the 4 targeted.

The table that follows presents a complete breakdown of outputs by objective.

## UNRISD Work Programme (2020–2022): Overcoming Inequalities—Towards a New Eco-Social Contract

**Overall objective:** Through the implementation of its work programme in 2020–2022, UNRISD will contribute to a better understanding of and greater pluralism in transformative policies, practices and approaches to sustainable development. UNRISD will contribute evidence, analysis, ideas and strategies—co-produced with its research networks and relevant stakeholders—that can shape debates, policy formulation and practices that reduce inequalities in various dimensions and foster more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development outcomes through implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, with a special emphasis on low- and middle-income countries.

Specific Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Tracked Performance Indicators	Targets (per annum)	Results		
					2021	2022	2023
1. Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development	High-quality, relevant research delivered; Research addresses inequalities and the 2030 Agenda principle of “leaving no one behind” within the context of implementation of the SDGs; Research and activities implemented through interdisciplinary teams that are geographically and gender balanced; Gender equality perspective incorporated in research and activities; Research includes perspectives and contributions to development thinking that are relevant for LICs/LDCs	Relevant, high-quality knowledge improves understanding of and enhances pluralism in the policies, practices and approaches to sustainable development	Size of the network involved in projects and activities	230	528	388	412
			Number and % of network from the global South	115; 50%	202; 38%	156, 40%	195, 47%
			Number and % of women in the network	115; 50%	292; 55%	216, 55%	230, 56%
			Total number of research outputs	90	78	144	68
			% of research activities that include analysis and evidence relevant for LICs/LDCs	80%	88%	94%	81%
			Number of peer reviewed publications	12	14	77	10
			Known number of bibliographic citations of research outputs	100	101	282	390
2. Develop the capacity of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues	Research and activities implemented through interdisciplinary teams that are geographically and gender balanced; Research outputs reflect the views of researchers from the global South and a gender equality perspective; Long-term relationships formed and maintained with researchers from the global South through project engagement that entails co-design research methods and mutual learning approach, mentoring programme	Southern researchers’ capacity enhanced to produce high-quality, relevant research on social dimensions of sustainable development issues; Work of global development community (research, policy, advocacy, practice) is informed by Southern and gender equality perspectives	Number and % of network from the global South	115; 50%	202; 38%	156, 40%	195, 47%
			% contributors to research outputs from the global South	40%	31%	33%	46%
			% contributors to research outputs who are women	40%	59%	58%	59%
			% invited event participants from the global South	50%	52%	46%	48%
			% invited event participants who are women	50%	54%	62%	54%
			Participants in Mentoring Programme for researchers in LICs/LDCs (Total Mentors+Mentees, 2021–2022)	tbd *	N/A	N/A	N/A
			3. Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development	Research findings presented in “pure” research products and “research derived” products; Access to research findings enhanced via multiple delivery mechanisms; Research-uptake linkages, partnerships, outreach and visibility strengthened with other parts of the United Nations, with Member States and with the Bonn sustainability hub; Contributions made to training and learning materials; Targeted e-newsletters dispatched to UNSDG / ECESA(+) member agencies’ policy and research teams and to all Permanent Missions in Geneva	Work of global development community (research, policy, advocacy and practice) uses research evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas in implementing the SDGs and working to achieve the vision set out in the 2030 Agenda; UN agencies and Member States are informed by research findings in their efforts to combat the contemporary challenges of inequalities and unsustainable practices, and to achieve more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development	Number of “research derived” products aimed at policy, advocacy and practice community	70
Number of downloads of publications from the UNRISD website (PDF downloads)	40,000	45,718				58,243	56,806
% visits to UNRISD website from the global South	50%	48.58%				38.3%	40.3%
Number of (a) video views and (b) podcast downloads	(a) 20,000 (b) 10,000	(a) 63,857 (b) 135,455				(a) 46,596 (b) 551**	(a) 37,727 (b) 518
Number of Twitter Followers (total)	Baseline= 33,000 +5%	34,475				35,974	37,000
Number of Facebook Likes (total)	Baseline= 20,000 +5%	26,063				59,986	62,000
Number of UN inter-agency strategic coordination, collaboration and exchange mechanisms/meetings in which UNRISD has a presence	10	36				28	42
Number of contributions to training and learning materials (inputs+days+webinars)	30	24				37	22
Number of advisory activities with UN / specialized agencies and invited participation in events	40	56				48	50

**UNRISD Work Programme (2020–2022): Overcoming Inequalities—Towards a New Eco-Social Contract (continued)**

Specific Objective	Outputs	Outcomes	Tracked Performance Indicators	Targets (per annum)	Results		
					2021	2022	2023
4. Convene and catalyse knowledge sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate	Spaces for mutual learning provided at seminars, workshops, panel discussions, conferences; Events platform under-represented viewpoints and alternative policy options	Two-way knowledge sharing and exchange across research, policy, advocacy and practice communities leads to better understanding and greater pluralism in policies, practices and approaches to sustainable development; Under-represented viewpoints and alternative policy options inform high-level audiences	Number of interdisciplinary events (co-)organized by UNRISD	12	17	29	22
			% with UN, civil society or multisectoral partners	50%	88%	97%	86%
			% in international settings/UN hubs	75%	71%	72%	59%
			Number of intergovernmental meetings where UNRISD has a presence (organization/participation including side events)	6	4	12	16
5. Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance	Applications made to additional donors for institutional, programme and project finance; Financial oversight by relevant staff and Board ensures reserves remain at an appropriate level; Stakeholder meeting held annually; Gender and regional diversity maintained in the UNRISD Board	Increased number of financial contributors; Stability and predictability supported by sufficient reserves; Existing partnerships with UN agencies and governments maintained and new opportunities sought; Work programme is gender sensitive and informed by / relevant to regional and UN priorities	Amount of funding received	USD 2.5m	USD 3.2m	USD 3.2m	USD 2.4m
			Amount of reserves	USD 1m	USD 1.8 m	USD 1.9m	USD 1.1m
			Stakeholder meeting(s) held	1***	0	1	1
			% of women on Board	50%	38%	29%	43%
			Number of regions represented on Board	4****	6	6	6

\* A scoping exercise, through consultation with UNRISD's network, was carried out in 2021.

\*\* As part of the digital overhaul carried out in 2022, that is, data migration to a new content management system, the method for collecting podcast metrics changed to capture a better picture of performance, listeners and (unique) downloads. This last indicator is reflected in the current report and the abovementioned change explains the lower number compared to previous years.

\*\*\* The "stakeholder meeting" has come to be understood as the consultation with Geneva missions and UN partners in the margins of the Board meeting.

\*\*\*\* The regions represented are: Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Asia, Southern Asia, Western Asia, and Western Europe. Regions based on <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/m49/>.

**Interdisciplinary network** includes predominantly researchers, but also policy makers, advocates and practitioners.

**Research outputs** include "pure" research products (reports, working papers, journal articles, book chapters and edited volumes) and "research derived products" (briefs, blogs/vlogs, think pieces, videos and podcasts).

**UN inter-agency strategic coordination**, collaboration and exchange mechanisms/meetings include UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), ECESA(+), SDG Learning Advisory Council, Expert Groups, Committees and Task Forces, among others.

**Peer reviewed publications** include book chapters and journal articles.

**Event participants** include panellists, speakers and paper presenters.



**UNRISD**

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