

Selected Resources

Sustainable Economic Development and Human Rights

Human rights in German development policy

BMZ Strategy and Guidelines on human rights in German development policy

The cross-sectoral strategy affirms the central role of human rights in German development policy and contains binding requirements for the implementing agencies; the Guidelines provide guidance on the incorporation of human rights standards and principles, including gender, in programme proposals.

- BMZ Strategy (2011), containing a section on poverty reduction and sustainable economic development: http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier305_04_2011.pdf
- BMZ Guidelines (2013), see in particular Annex pp. xxi-xxii: http://www.bmz.de/en/zentrales/downloadarchiv/themen_und_schwerpunkte/menschenrechte/Leitfaden_PV_2013_en.pdf

BMZ (2010), Human rights in practice – Fact sheets on a human rights-based approach in development cooperation

Collection of 2-page fact sheets that explain what the human rights-based approach in development cooperation means in general and for all priority sectors of German development cooperation. The fact sheet on sustainable economic development can be found on pages 16-17.

- http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/topics/human_rights/BMZ_Information_Brochure_7_2010e.pdf

BMZ Private Sector Development Strategy (2013), with a chapter on sustainable investment and corporate social responsibility (CSR)

- http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier338_09_2013.pdf

BMZ Strategy Paper 'Developing markets, creating wealth, reducing poverty, taking responsibility – the private sector as a partner of development policy' (2011), endorsing the importance of human rights as a key element in national frameworks for sustainable growth

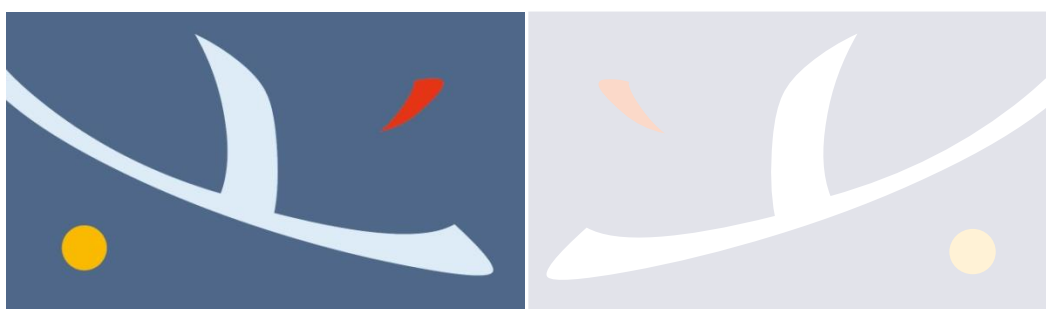
- www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/Strategiepapier304_03_2011.pdf

BMZ Strategy Paper 'Corporate social responsibility from a development policy perspective' (2010)

- www.bmz.de/en/publications/type_of_publication/strategies/StrategyPaper300_02_2010_en.pdf

United Nations reference documents and resources on sustainable economic development

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) constitute the main legal reference documents. They contain rights and freedoms relevant to economic development, such as the right to earn one's living (ICESCR Art. 6), the right to just and favourable conditions of work (ICESCR Art. 7), the right to form and to join trade unions (ICESCR Art. 8, ICCPR Art. 22), the prohibition of forced labour (ICCPR Art. 8), the prohibition of child labour (ICESCR Art. 10), the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress (ICESCR Art. 15) and the



right to an adequate standard of living (ICESCR Art. 11). Moreover, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) enshrines the right to a social and international order in which these rights can be fully realised (UDHR Art. 28).

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)

- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CESCR.aspx>

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CCPR.aspx>

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

- <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), General Comment No. 18 on ICESCR Article 6: the right to work (E/C.12/GC/18, 2006)

The treaty bodies, committees of independent experts established under the UN human rights treaties, issue “General Comments”, authoritative interpretations of the provisions of the treaty. The CESCR, through General Comment No. 18, has interpreted Article 6 with respect to the right to work, defining the following core elements of the right: availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality.

- <http://www.refworld.org/docid/4415453b4.html>

All states parties are obliged to regularly submit reports to the CESCR on the steps taken to implement the rights stipulated by the Covenant. The Committee examines each report and addresses its concerns and recommendations to the state party in the form of “Concluding Observations”.

- http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionList.aspx?Treaty=CESCR

UN Declaration on the Right to Development

This UN Declaration of 1986 states that everyone is entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights can be fully realised. However, it is disputable whether the Declaration enshrines rights of individuals and/or peoples.

- <http://www.un.org/en/events/righttodevelopment/declaration.shtml>

UN special procedures relevant to sustainable economic development

The **Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association** is mandated to study corresponding human rights obligations, to carry out country visits and to issue recommendations.

- Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/AssemblyAssociation/Pages/SRFreedomAssemblyAssociationIndex.aspx>
- In 2012, he published a report on best practices (A/HRC/20/27): http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session20/A-HRC-20-27_en.pdf

The **Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other enterprises** is the successor body to the former Special Representative on this issue, Prof. John Ruggie, to promote the effective implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights („Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework).

- Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/WGHRandtransnationalcorporationsandotherbusiness.aspx>
- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011): http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf

Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

- Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IntOrder/Pages/IEInternationalorderIndex.aspx>

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

- The right to development at a glance: http://www.un.org/en/events/righttodevelopment/pdf/rtd_at_a_glance.pdf
- Principles and Guidelines for a human rights approach to poverty reduction strategies: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/PovertyStrategiesen.pdf>

UN High-Level Task Force on the implementation of the right to development (until 2010)

- Website: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/HighLevelTaskForce.aspx>
- Report on right to development criteria and operational sub-criteria to translate the political commitment into development practice (A/HRC/15/WG.2/TF/2/Add.2, 2010): <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Development/A-HRC-15-WG2-TF-2-Add2.doc>

UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

This UN body deals with development issues, particularly international trade, one of the key drivers of development, and offers technical assistance to developing countries to become equitably integrated into the global economy.

- <http://unctad.org/en/pages/ALDC/aldc.aspx>

International labour standards

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is mandated to promote rights at work, encourage decent employment opportunities and enhance social protection. The ILO develops labour standards, monitors their application and provides technical assistance.

- ILO Conventions and Recommendations; special priority is given to the “core labour standards” freedom of association and collective bargaining, abolition of forced and child labour, and elimination of discrimination in employment and remuneration: <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12000:0::NO::>
- All relevant documents and ratification status by country can be found here: <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11003:0::NO::>

Business and human rights – Implementing the UN Guiding Principles

UN Global Compact

An initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

- Website: <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/>
- OHCHR/Global Compact series, Embedding Human Rights in Business Practice I, II, III & IV (2004/2007/2009/2013), incl. the description of practical implications and numerous case studies: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/search?utf8=%E2%9C%93&search%5Bkeywords%5D=Embedding+Human+Rights+in+Business+Practice&button=&search%5Bcontent_type%5D=&search%5Bsort_field%5D=
- Online Human Rights & Business Learning Tool with exercises and case studies: <http://human-rights-and-business-learning-tool.unglobalcompact.org/>
- A Guidance Tool for Companies – How to do business with respect for human rights (2010): http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/issues_doc/human_rights/Resources/how_to_business_with_respect_for_human_rights_gcn_netherlands_june2010.pdf; corresponding Webinar “Investing the Rights Way – A Guide for Investors” (2013): <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/resources/611>
- Business Reference Guide on indigenous peoples’ rights and corresponding obligations (2013): www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/issues_doc/human_rights/IndigenousPeoples/BusinessGuide.pdf

SOMO/CEDHA/Cividep India, How to use the UN Guiding Principles in company research and advocacy – A guide for civil society organisations (2012)

- somo.nl/publications-en/Publication_3899/at_download/fullfile

International Finance Corporation (IFC) Sustainability Framework

In 2012, the IFC published its performance standards and guidance notes, defining responsibilities for managing environmental and social risks.

- http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/ifc+sustainability/our+approach/risk+management/performance+standards/environmental+and+social+performance+standards+and+guidance+notes

Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights

- Online Guide for Integrating Human Rights Into Business Management, offering practical guidance to companies willing to take a proactive approach to human rights within their business operations: <http://www.integrating-humanrights.org>

European Union

- European Commission, Oil and Gas Sector Guide on Implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2013) with many practical examples: http://businessconduct.dk/file/375283/oil_and_gas_sector.pdf

Institute for Development and Peace (INEF), University of Duisburg-Essen

- Research area “Development and Human Rights” with projects, e.g. on corporate responsibility and sustainable development: http://inef.uni-due.de/cms/index.php?article_id=17&clang=1

Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

This portal provides a vast array of documents and information, e.g. general or sector-specific guidance, impact assessments and trainings. It also features reports on infringements of human rights by companies as well as good practice examples.

- <http://www.business-humanrights.org>

UN Practitioners’ Portal on HRBA to programming – Resources on business and corporate social responsibility

- <http://hrbaportal.org/archives/topics/business-csr>

International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)

- Case study: Brazil – How much are human rights worth in the Brazilian mining and steel industry? (2012), including detailed recommendations: http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/report_brazil_2012_english.pdf

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Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Net (ESCR-Net)

- Case law in relation to development, corporate accountability, investment and more: http://www.escr-net.org/caselaw-data-base/view/filter?field_summary_value=&field_forum_value=&field_country_tid=All&field_thematic_focus_tid=2442&Apply

Human rights impact assessments (HRIA)

- Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE), Working paper “Human rights impact assessments as a new tool for development policy?” (2013): http://www.oefse.at/fileadmin/content/Downloads/Publicationen/Workingpaper/WP37_Human_Rights.pdf

- World Bank study on human rights impact assessments (2013): http://siteresources.worldbank.org/PROJECTS/Resources/40940-1331068268558/HRIA_Web.pdf
- The Business of a Better World, Conducting an effective human rights impact assessment (2013): http://www.bsr.org/reports/BSR_Human_Rights_Impact_Assessments.pdf
- Danish Institute for Human Rights, Integrating human rights into environmental, social and health impact assessments – A practical guide for the oil and gas industry (2013): <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Links/Repository/1023880/jump>

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