

**SHRC**

Scottish  
Human Rights  
Commission

# Human Rights Levers: Harnessing the SDGs to further support for human rights in the Scottish context

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Scottish Human Rights Commission,  
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# Mérida Declaration

- Mérida Declaration: highlighted the potential of NHRIs in supporting the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs
- Particular role for NHRIs in measuring progress
  - Supporting a HRBA to (implement and) monitor the SDGs
  - Supporting the development of effective national indicators & ways of collecting data
  - Safeguarding space for people whose rights are affected by the SDG agenda (“rights holders”) and the civil society groups that work with them

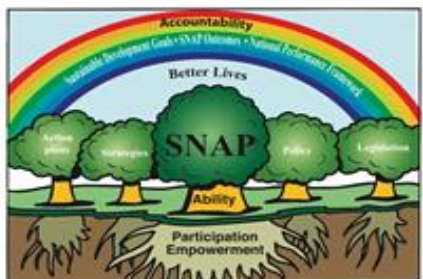


# Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP)

## LONG TERM OUTCOMES

BY 2030

1. Each of us is empowered to understand and embrace the value of human rights, asserting them in all parts of our lives.
2. Each of us can participate in shaping and directing decisions that affect our human rights.
3. Organisations providing public services contribute to a human rights culture by valuing and putting human rights at the heart of what they do.
4. Scotland increasingly implements its international human rights obligations, influences and learns from international experience and promotes human rights in all of its international engagements.
5. All organisations are held to account for the realisation of people's rights through international and domestic laws, regulation and monitoring.
6. Each of us has access to and can enjoy quality public services, which respect our dignity, irrespective of who we are or where we live.
7. Each of us experiences improved opportunities and life outcomes whilst Scotland experiences an overall reduction in inequality of opportunity and outcomes.



# Scotland commits to the SDGs



First Minister , Nicola Sturgeon

In July 2015 Scotland's First Minister stated her public commitment to the SDGs

“If we are going to talk as we do about the importance of human rights, we have to be able to demonstrate how we apply that in our day to day policy making. When we signed up to the Sustainable Development Goals in the summer, I promised to reflect those goals within our National Performance Framework and I do make the same pledge today in relation to the Action Plan [SNAP]. We should integrate our performance framework with the sustainable development goals and the action plan. Doing that will make Scotland a world leader. It means that we will truly – not just in words but in action - be putting human rights at the heart of how we assess our national performance as a country”. Dec15

# National Performance Framework

- A partnership approach across central and local government & all public services
- An outcomes-based approach with a shared Purpose, moving away from targets, inputs & outputs
- This approach is now in legislation via the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act with a commitment to review the chosen 'National Outcomes' at least once every 5 years.
- The Framework was reviewed and relaunched in June 2018.

# Monitoring the SDGs

- Working group set up early 2016 to explore embedding human rights and addressing the SDGs through the NPF:
  - SHRC Research Officer & Scottish Government (SG) Department Leads from: SDGs; National Performance Framework & Human rights
- Triangulation of three key frameworks:
  - National Performance Framework
  - Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights
  - Sustainable Development Goals
- Gap analysis of NPF indicators & Global indicators
  - DIHR SDG Human Rights Tool <http://sdg.humanrights.dk/>
  - Analysis by Dr Graham Long on UK data availability
  - Red flag of data gaps
  - Lack of availability of disaggregated statistics

# Periodic review of the NPF

- Review of the National Outcomes during 2017 set out to:
  - **Improve the alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals,** and with other Frameworks such as **Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights** and Scotland’s Economic Strategy
  - Allow Government to better track **progress in reducing inequalities, promoting equality,** and encouraging preventative approaches.
- SHRC/SG working group acted as a sounding board throughout this process – produced a mapping of all relevant international and regional Human rights frameworks and the relevant SDGs for each national outcome to make links explicit
- 11 New outcomes including a human rights outcome:

*We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination.*

## National Outcome: Human Rights

### National Indicators

- Public services treat people with dignity and respect
- Quality of public services
- Influence over local decisions
- Access to justice

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

## National Outcome: Culture

### National Indicators

- Attendance at cultural events or places of culture
- Participation in a cultural activity
- Growth in cultural economy
- People working in arts and culture

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities

## National Outcome: Environment

### National Indicators

- Visits to the outdoors
- State of historic sites
- Condition of protected nature sites
- Energy from renewable sources
- Waste generated
- Sustainability of fish stocks
- Biodiversity
- Marine environment

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation
- SDG 13: Climate action
- SDG 14: Life below water
- SDG 15: Life on land

## National Outcome: Health

### National Indicators

- Healthy life expectancy
- Mental wellbeing
- Healthy weight
- Health risk behaviours
- Physical activity
- Journeys by active travel
- Quality of care experience
- Work related ill health
- Premature mortality

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing

## National Outcome: Fair Work & Business

### National Indicators

- The number of businesses
- High growth businesses
- Innovative businesses
- Economic participation
- Employees on the living wage
- Pay gap
- Contractually secure work
- Employee voice
- Gender balance in organisations

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production

# National Performance Framework

## Our Purpose, Values and National Outcomes



## National Outcome: Education

### National Indicators

- Educational attainment
- Confidence of children and young people
- Resilience of children and young people
- Work place learning
- Engagement in extra-curricular activities
- Young people's participation
- Skill profile of the population
- Skill shortage vacancies
- Skills under-utilisation

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 1: No poverty
- SDG 2: Zero hunger
- SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing

## National Outcome: Children

### National Indicators

- Child social and physical development
- Child wellbeing and happiness
- Children's voices
- Healthy start
- Quality of children's services
- Children have positive relationships
- Children's material deprivation

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 1: No poverty
- SDG 2: Zero hunger
- SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation
- SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing



**National Performance Framework**  
nationalperformance.gov.scot

## National Outcome: Economy

### National Indicators

- Productivity
- International exporting
- Economic growth
- Carbon footprint
- Natural Capital
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Access to superfast broadband
- Spend on research and development
- Income inequalities
- Entrepreneurial activity

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production

## National Outcome: International

### National Indicators

- A positive experience for people coming to Scotland
- Scotland's reputation
- Scotland's population
- Trust in public organisations
- International networks
- Contribution of development support to other nations

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the goals

## National Outcome: Poverty

### National Indicators

- Relative poverty after housing costs
- Wealth inequalities
- Cost of living
- Unmanageable debt
- Persistent poverty
- Satisfaction with housing
- Food insecurity

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 1: No poverty
- SDG 2: Zero hunger

## National Outcome: Communities

### National Indicators

- Perceptions of local area loneliness
- Perceptions of local crime rate
- Community land ownership
- Crime victimisation
- Access to green and blue space
- Places to interact
- Social capital

### Sustainable Development Goals

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities
- SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation
- SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities



# Other on-going SHRC work & the SDGs



**THE GLOBAL GOALS**  
For Sustainable Development

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WELCOME TO **SCOTLAND'S**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS NETWORK

#SDGScotland

**SDG**  
NETWORK  
SCOTLAND



# Other on-going SHRC work & the SDGs

- SNAP Participation process
  - Build knowledge and understanding of human rights amongst rights holders through a participatory capacity-building process
  - Engage a range of stakeholders including people with lived-experience of poor human rights delivery in setting an agenda for future action
  - Triangulate the outstanding UN treaty body recommendations relevant to Scotland and the SDG goals and targets with the findings
- Treaty Body reporting
- Ensuring SDG agenda is embedded as Scotland develops a new Scottish Human Rights Act incorporating, ESC, CP and environmental rights.
- Internal audit of strategic and operational work

# Audit your own NHRI's work

- Does your own work support SDG implementation/ monitoring?
- Do you have a National Action Plan for Human rights? Does it reflect SDGs?
- Undertake an internal audit to make the connections explicit.
- Support the integration of the SDGs into national and local strategies & action plans by setting an example.
- Make explicit reference to SDGs through treaty reporting and UPR.
- **Proactively engage in** Knowledge exchange on how other NHRIs have approached the SDGs through their own work