THE WORLD WE WANT
A GUIDE TO THE GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
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Introduction

DEAR FRIEND.

We would like to share a guide with you that presents the Global Goals for Sustainable Development that Member States have identified as priorities for all people and our planet, in order to help build a better world for all, within the next 15 years. The leaders of these countries have done this with the support of millions of people and organisations around the world, including children and young people!

The purpose of this guide is to help you understand the Goals, how they impact your own life and what you can do every day to help your government achieve the Goals.

The Goals aim to make progress on the big challenges faced in our world today – but we can only reach these Goals with the help of people around the world – people like you, your family, your teachers, your friends, your community, your sisters and brothers. It is very important that all of us think about the actions we can take to contribute to the achievement of the Goals. Remember even small steps can add up to big progress if the millions of people around the world are involved!

This document will also help us understand what children and young people like you think about these Goals, what is most important to you, what steps should be taken to improve life for all, and how we can work together to help achieve the Goals and create a better world for today and for the future.

We hope you enjoy the guide and we thank you for your participation!

Global Movement for Children of Latin America and Caribbean
What you should know before we begin:

**United Nations (UN):**
Created in 1945, the UN is the largest existing international organisation, of which almost all States in the world are members. It is tasked with maintaining peace and security in the world, helping solve the problems that affect us all, promoting respect for the human rights of all people (including children and young people), and providing support to countries to work together for this purpose.

**UN Member States:**
The countries that are members of the United Nations. In the year 2015, there are 193 UN Member States.

**Millennium Summit:**
In 2000, representatives from the (then) 189 Member States of the UN met to adopt the Millennium Declaration. This Declaration created a global alliance to combat poverty. After this meeting, the goals we now know as the Millennium Development Goals were developed.

**Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*:**
The MDGs are eight goals that States created to guide joint efforts between international organisations and States to fight poverty and hunger in the world, stop diseases like HIV/AIDS, promote gender equality, and to ensure that more children are able to attend school, among other efforts.

These goals were supposed to be achieved by the year 2015 and although much progress has been made, there is still further work to be done.

From time to time, Member States deliver reports to the UN on their work to achieve these goals. The UN reviews the States’ progress and assesses their success in achieving the goals.

**The Global Goals for Sustainable Development:**
As the time period for the MDGs ends in 2015, the world and our governments will still need to keep working to fully achieve the MDGs for all people, as well as tackle new issues and problems.

For example, many people in the world—more than 1 billion people—continue to live in poverty and many others experience inequality, unfair treatment and discrimination.

For the last few years, the UN has been discussing what should be the global priorities that need to be met within the next 15 years—from 2016 to 2030. These priorities are now called the Global Goals for Sustainable Development or the Global Goals. There are 17 Global Goals that cover a number of important issues for the world, including: ending extreme poverty, ensuring all children receive a good education, achieving equal opportunities for all, and promoting better practices for consumption and production that will help make the planet cleaner and healthier.

*If you want to know more about the success of the MDGs and how they match up to the new global goals, we invite you to visit our annex section. You will find important information there.
What are the Global Goals for Sustainable Development?

In July 2015, Member States reached a final agreement on the Global Goals. The aim of this agreement is to commit efforts towards ensuring that people around the world live better, without damaging the planet. States will work toward achieving them within the next 15 years, from 2015 to 2030. These Goals, which come after the MDGs end, are known as the Global Goals for Sustainable Development.*

How were the Global Goals Chosen?

The UN led an Open Working Group, comprised of Member States’ representatives, which met 13 times throughout 2013 and 2014. Accompanied by a team of technical experts on education, health, climate and other topics, this group discussed the most pressing issues facing people around the world and standing in the way of improving life for all people and the planet. At the same time, discussions were taking place around the world with ordinary people, giving them the opportunity to express their ideas on what should be in the Global Goals. From these discussions, the Open Working Group developed goals and targets that focus on a variety of different themes. For example, some of the topics covered include ending extreme poverty and hunger, and guaranteeing human rights, peace, gender equality, as well as the sustainable management of the environment and natural resources.

After the report from the Open Working Group, all of the Member States of the UN got a chance to discuss the proposal. They agreed that what the Open Working Group came up with was a good and ambitious list and decided to adopt 17 Goals. They wrote a “Declaration” to introduce the Goals to the world, as well as some ideas on how the Goals would be put into practice, and how they would be monitored over the next 15 years to see if progress is being achieved. Finally, in August 2015, the Member States agreed on the full agenda for the new Global Goals for Sustainable Development, ready to for a ceremonious commitment to them at the UN headquarters in New York on September 25th 2015.

This guide will explain the proposed Global Goals and specific targets for each Goal.

*From now on, we will call them the Global Goals.
But what is Sustainable Development? And why is it important?

Sustainable development is development that improves living conditions in the present without compromising the resources of future generations.

Development is NOT sustainable when we spend or use all our resources now, leaving future generations with nothing. Sustainable development is growing together, improving the thinking of others and respecting the environment.

To ensure sustainable development, we need to work together to make sure major changes are made to transform into a more just and equitable society. To achieve this, our leaders will have to commit to this change, but we must also do our part. For example, we must give our opinions on issues that affect children and young people, analysing and debating about the world we dream for ourselves and for future generations. We must also take positive actions in our own lives that contribute towards sustainable development like having respect for other people and for the planet.

What kind of world do we want to live in?
The voice of children and young people is important!

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**JOANNA’S STORY**

My friend Joanna studies with me and always takes great care of her things. She knows how much it costs her parents to give them to her. She admires her parents very much. Her father works on the farm and does not use pesticides that harm the earth. He knows that if we abuse the land now, it will simply not give us anything in the future. Her mother makes delicious cheeses and sells them at a fair price. They are not millionaires, but earn enough to live. I never see Joanna thinking about which new phone model to buy; instead, she thinks about her future and what she would like to study, even though she has not yet decided between agriculture and education.
Before we go on, we invite you to have fun finding words in this WORD SEARCH PUZZLE.

Child: According to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, a child is any person under the age of 18.

Goals: The overall results we want to achieve from our efforts. We develop targets to help measure if we are achieving these overall results.

Equity: It is key for the world to be a more developed, peaceful, and just place. Equity means respecting and valuing differences, allowing everyone to have the same opportunity to guarantee their rights.

Policies: Actions of the State to address problems and the interests of the population.

Gender: What defines our individuality, identity, and nature as men or women.

Poverty: A condition in which basic needs are not adequately met — for example, access to food, health, or education, among others.

Participate: It is our right to feel, hear, express and be considered in decisions. To participate is to do something here and now.

Human Rights: The set of rights that every human being is entitled to from its conception. They are based on two core values: equality and human dignity.

State: How a country is organised. It has a defined territory, a population, a government, and laws to guide policies and institutions.
GOAL 1
No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

To achieve Goal 1, States have agreed to:

- Ensure that everyone in society is protected against things like unemployment and has access to support services like medical care. This is called social protection and is especially meant to protect and support the poorest and most vulnerable people.
- Ensure resources are allocated to implement social policies that help people who have less money to still have equal access to basic services, labour, land, technology and be able to create companies to grow economically.
- Build the resilience of people with less money so that they are better protected from climate-related extreme events, like floods and droughts, and other economic, social and environmental shocks.

Why is this important for children and young people?

The main aim of the Goal no. 1 is to end extreme poverty by 2030.

It’s a huge goal! How will we achieve it?

The States that form the global alliance to combat poverty should take steps to achieve this goal and the UN must verify that all States are making an effort.

But what can we do to help?

For example, we can find out more about the causes and effects of poverty around the world and become informed global citizens.

We all have the right and should have the opportunity to demand that States fulfil their commitments to create a better world for all.

We can talk to each other about the issues. We can participate in the consultation processes, to make our voices heard. We can urge our governments to listen to us. We can organise ourselves.

We all have the right and should have the opportunity to demand that States fulfil their commitments to create a better world for all.

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GOAL 2
No Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

To achieve Goal 2, the States have agreed to:

• End malnutrition by improving social programs for children, mothers and the elderly, and ensuring safe, nutritious and sufficient food year-round.
• Increase agricultural production and income of small farmers, especially women and indigenous peoples, respecting the environment, the biodiversity of each region and their own resources.
• Prevent problems such as drought, floods, and other disasters.
• Protect the variety of species of seeds, crops and farm animals (domestic and wild), and fairly distribute the benefits of these resources.

THE STORY OF PAULA AND LUISA

Paula was always worried because Luisa, her two-year-old daughter, was smaller and thinner than girls her age. They lived in the mountains where it was cold, so Paula fed Luisa with hot soups and broths. Until one day, when Paula saw a government message on TV in which a mother advised giving children a plate of vegetables, eggs and meat instead of soups and broths. From then on, Paula started to improve the nutrition and health of her baby.
**GOAL 3**

**Good Health**

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

To achieve Goal 3, the States have agreed to:

- Reduce the number of mothers who die giving birth to their children.
- Prevent the deaths of newborns and children under five years old.
- End epidemics such as HIV/AIDS and other diseases, such as hepatitis or waterborne diseases.
- Educate people on prevention and abuse of drugs and alcohol as well as on mental health issues.
- Provide information about family planning, sex education and reproductive health.
- Ensure that everyone enjoys the right to health, which includes high quality medical care, and accessible and economical medicines and vaccines.
- Halve global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.
- Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination.

What do children and young people need to stay healthy?
Goal 4
Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

To achieve Goal 4, the States have agreed to:

- Ensure education for all, starting from basic education.
- Provide more opportunities for technical and vocational training to youth and adults so they can get better jobs.
- End inequality in educational opportunities between men and women, for children with disabilities, indigenous people and victims of conflict.
- Improve school facilities to provide a safe and positive environment for everyone.
- Increase the number of scholarships for vocational and technical training, either in a person’s home country or abroad.
- Increase the number of trained and qualified teachers.
- Promote education for sustainable development.

Carmen’s Story

Carmen and her two brothers were not going to school. They each helped their parents on the farm and did not have enough money to attend school. That changed when the State opened a new school that gave them free education. All children from their community were able to study. Not only that, they also learned about seeds, techniques to improve irrigation of their crops, and other useful skills. It was, in short, a school where everyone was treated equally, no matter if they were girls or boys, rich or poor. Everyone had the same right to study.

What else is needed for every child and young person to have a good education?
To achieve Goal 5, the States have agreed to:

- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- End all forms of violence against women and girls, including sex trafficking and other forms of exploitation.
- End all practices and traditions that may impair the physical, mental and sexual health of women and girls.
- Recognize and value women’s work at home. Encourage women and girls to have equal opportunities to be heard and to have real opportunities to participate in all political, economic and public spheres.
- Protect women’s rights to sexual and reproductive health.
- Promote policies and laws to ensure gender equality including reforms to give women equal access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance, and natural resources.
Goal 6
Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

To achieve Goal 6, the States have agreed to:

- Ensure all have access to safe water.
- Ensure all have access to sanitation (safe sewage disposal and good waste management) and public education on healthy hygiene habits.
- Monitor water quality to reduce contamination. Prevent chemicals or contaminants from being thrown into the water.
- Improve water use, developing greater resources for its reutilisation.
- Raise awareness among communities to ensure they play an active part in improving their water management and sanitation.
- Protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.

Matia’s Story

Matias and almost all of the children in his neighbourhood were sick. The adults were also experiencing some health issues. When they went to the nearest health center, doctors said that the cause of the health issues was probably the water – which is brought in a tank every two days – since everyone had the same symptoms. In fact, the water was contaminated and since few people had a gas stove, they could not boil water before drinking or cooking with it.

What are the most important things you use water for? What if you did not have it? How can we make sure that all children and young people have access to safe water?
Goal 7

Renewable Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

To achieve Goal 7, the States have agreed to:

• Ensure access for all to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services through new infrastructure and better technology.
• Promote energy efficiency – more quickly developing technology that wastes less energy.
• Increase the use of renewable energy sources globally compared with other sources of energy.
• Work together to research and develop renewable and other clean energy resources.

We have already spoken about water, but light is also important, don’t you think?

Very important! We could not do many things without it.

And those of us who have, very often waste it. That’s right! We can all conserve energy and help out a little.

Let’s see which targets were designed to give every person in the world access to energy so they can access other services such as light, the internet and other technology by 2030.

Well, many people still don’t have access to electricity in their homes. This is a big issue.

Very important! We could not do many things without it.

What are the things you use at home or in school that require electricity? Why is it important that all children and young people have it?
Goal 8
Good Jobs and Economic Growth

Promote sustained inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

To achieve Goal 8, the States have agreed to:

- Offer opportunities for safe, creative work that motivates people’s development.
- Ensure our natural resources are respected and protected in economic activities.
- Promote decent work and safe working environments for all: men and women, youth, people with disabilities, and migrant workers.
- Reduce the number of unemployed youth by increasing access to training.
- Prevent and end forced labour and child labour in all forms.
- Globally, take actions to give more jobs to young people.

We must ensure that everyone has decent, safe work opportunities, that ensure our rights are protected, and that pay enough to take care of ourselves and our families.

What about work, what do you think?

Why is it important that people can find good jobs? What might prevent some people from finding good jobs, and what can we do to make it easier for everyone to find a good job?
GOAL 9
Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

To achieve Goal 9, States have agreed to:

- Develop sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being.
- Provide small businesses with access to credit and technical support for their development.
- Ensure the companies promote sustainable development and do not harm the environment.
- Allocate resources for research to address that country’s specific needs and improve technology.
- Ensure all have access to the internet and new technologies, especially those living in least developed countries.

Do you believe government and business leaders can do more for the environment and their workers?

Companies have a responsibility to take care of our environment and create healthy products that won’t harm people or the planet.

Companies are also responsible for assisting their communities where they operate so that the community members feel included and respected.
Goal 10
Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequalities within and among countries

To achieve Goal 10, States have agreed to:

- Provide support for people living in poverty to have access to support for rapid and sustainable economic growth.
- Ensure laws and practices do not discriminate against any group, but rather listen to people’s needs and the input of those who are affected.
- Ensure laws and social programs protect disadvantaged and vulnerable people. For example, when establishing quotas in a political party, youth, women, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities must also be included.
- Ensure people who leave one country to live in another benefit from laws to protect them.

Have you ever felt excluded? Have you noticed when things seem unfair for certain people? How does this make you feel and what do you think can be done to make things fairer?
Goal 11
Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

To achieve Goal 11, the States have agreed to:

- Ensure all have access to quality, safe housing and basic services.
- Provide safe, organised transportation that is not harmful to the environment and is also specifically designed to serve children, women, and vulnerable people.
- Engage communities in discussions and planning for improvement of their cities.
- Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.
- Increase resilience to disasters.
- Ensure monitoring of waste management and air quality.
- Prepare communities to manage their resources properly and to tackle climate change.

What are the things that would make cities safer and better for children and young people?

Our cities and villages need to be clean and safe cities, with good housing and basic services like water and electricity.

Don’t forget about places to play! We need parks and safe transportation to get around.
Goal 12

Responsible Consumption

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

To achieve Goal 12, the States have agreed to:

- Halve the amount of global food waste per person, by individuals and companies.
- Ensure that, international agreements for handling harmful chemicals are met, taking care of the air, water and soil.
- Reduce the generation of waste through the three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.
- Ensure large companies’ practices are responsible, open and environmentally sound.
- Keep the public informed and educated, and provide the tools to live in harmony with nature for sustainable lifestyles.

What are the small things you could do in your daily life that would help waste fewer resources like water, food, trees and energy?

We do this to avoid wasting paper, as paper production contributes to cutting down too many trees. It’s a small way we can contribute to living in harmony with nature, saving the forests and leaving a better world for the people that will be born in the future.

That’s true! And it helps our parents save money too!

Did you know that next year my parents no longer have to buy books?

No? How will you study?

The school gives us borrowed books and, at the end of the year, we return them to the library. Of course, we must be careful not to write on or tear the pages.

What are the small things you could do in your daily life that would help waste fewer resources like water, food, trees and energy?
GOAL 13
Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

To achieve Goal 13, the States have agreed to:

- Ensure people are well prepared for hazards related to climate and natural disasters.
- Address climate change issues in their governments’ agendas and allocate resources to combat climate change.

Why is a changing climate important to children and young people? What are some the impacts that you might face?

Yes, I saw it. Scientists around the world say it is because the temperature of the earth is getting too high and that is dangerous for people, animals and the environment.

States of the world have the task of slowing the progress of global warming and reducing its negative impacts by 2030.

Did you see that the snowy hill nearby doesn't have as much snow as before?
GOAL 14
Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

To achieve Goal 14, the States have agreed to:

• Reduce marine pollution by 2025, since much of the pollution comes from human activities on land.
• Enact laws that prohibit illegal fishing, overfishing, and other destructive fishing practices.
• Provide financial support to the poorest countries and small islands to protect and have better management of marine resources, thinking about the future.
Goal 15
Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

To achieve Goal 15, the States have agreed to:

• Protect and conserve ecosystems (for example, deserts and rainforests) by respecting signed international agreements.
• Reduce deforestation and plant more trees in order to reforest.
• Protect and urgently prevent the extinction of endangered species; stop uncontrolled hunting and trafficking in protected species of flora and fauna. It is important to involve indigenous communities.
GOAL 16
Peace and Justice

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

To achieve Goal 16, the States have agreed to:

• End violence in the world and deaths related to it.
• End the abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence and torture against children.
• Ensure that everyone has equal access to justice in their country or internationally.
• Combat crime and corruption in any form.
• Improve State-level institutions that inspire confidence in their citizens.
• Ensure citizens are consulted and their governments make decisions with the interest of children and adults in mind. For example, children and young people must be consulted before a legal law that affects their lives is signed.
• Ensure all children are given an identity including birth registration.
• Ensure all people have free access to information.
• Strengthen institutions to prevent violence, terrorism and crime.

Why is it so important for children and young people to feel safe in their homes and schools? What can you do to help promote the safety of children in your communities?

What can be done so that you live in a safer world with less violence?
GOAL 17
Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

To achieve all these Goals, the States have agreed to:

• Help ensure all countries have met these Goals by 2030. The Global Goals should be present in national plans and each State will decide which issues are most pressing in their country.
• Ensure each State allocates its own resources to achieve the Goals. In addition, developed countries should commit to supporting achievement of the Goals in less developed countries.
• Respect countries’ policy decisions, provided they are consistent. For example, you cannot create rules for the protection of natural resources, and give permission for their exploitation at the same time.
• Engage with the organisations and individuals who have been working for many years on various topics that relate to the Global Goals. These organisations and individuals should be involved in work toward achieving the goals, as their experience and support is necessary.
• Ensure States improve their data and statistics management to be able to assess their progress and toward achievement of the Global Goals.

We already know what the Goals and targets are…

…but what are the things that we and our governments need to do to achieve the Goals?
Now that you know all the goals, connect each goal with the corresponding icon.

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Thank you for Participating!

Before we say goodbye, let’s discuss in groups:

What Goals do you think are most important for children and young people? List the Goals in order of priority.

1. 

2. 

3. 

4. 

5.
Which Goals are you going to champion and how are you going to help achieve them?
APPENDIX

The Millennium Development Goals and their Targets

MDGs from 2000 to 2015:
How do the MDGs connect to the Global Goals? Draw lines joining the MDGs you think match onto the Global Goals.

MDG 1
Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Progress Made: The proportion of people whose income is less than US$1.25 a day has been cut by half.

MDG 2
Achieve Universal Primary Education

Progress Made: Primary education enrolment in developing countries has reached 90%.

MDG 3
Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

Progress Made: Gender equality between boys and girls exists in primary education worldwide.

MDG 4
Reduce Child Mortality

Progress Made: Since 1990 17,000 fewer children are dying each day.

MDG 5
Improve Maternal Health

Progress Made: Maternal mortality dropped by 45% between 1990 and 2013.

MDG 6
Combat HIV / AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

Progress Made: 3.3 million fewer deaths from malaria between 2000 and 2010.

MDG 7
Ensure Environmental Sustainability

Progress Made: 2.3 billion people gained access to improved drinking water sources between 1990 and 2012.

MDG 8
Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Progress Made: Official development assistance hit a record high of US$134 billion in 2013.

The Latin America and Caribbean movement for Children (MMI-LAC) is a strategic alliance of leading organizations and networks in the region working to promote, protect and defend the rights of children and adolescents. This alliance includes the YMCA, SOS Children’s Villages International, Child Fund Alliance, Child Helpline, Defense for Children International (DCI), ECPAT, Inter-America Children’s Institute (IIN) of the OAS, Plan International, Latin America and Caribbean Network for the defense of the Rights of Child and Adolescent (REDLAMYC), ANDI International, Save the Children, UNICEF and World Vision International, in addition to the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), the Foundation Marist Solidarity International (FMSI) and the Viva Network as observers.

The MMI-LAC strengthens the promotion and protection of the rights of children and adolescents in the Latin America and the Caribbean by: a) mobilising to promote the rights of the children and adolescents; b) articulating efforts for more effective child rights’ advocacy; c) promoting the exchange and systematisation of successful experiences; and d) supporting efficient coordination between civil society, children and adolescents, States and international organisations and multilateral agencies.