



## UPR in Action

### UPR Implementation: Best Practices and challenges for the 4<sup>th</sup> UPR cycle

Side event to the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the Human Rights Council

27<sup>th</sup> March, 13.00-14.00, Room XXII, Building E, Palais des Nations

#### Background

The Universal Periodic Review is widely recognized as the primary mechanism of intergovernmental cooperation to examine human rights issues at the national level in all countries, without distinction. Established by the Human Rights Council in 2007, the mechanism seeks to build a constructive conversation around human rights in and among Member States. The peer review is based on an interactive dialogue between the country that is reviewed and other UN Member States (and Observer States). During this interactive dialogue, the country under review presents its report, answers questions, and receives recommendations from other countries. The interactive dialogue is followed by the informal adoption of an outcome document that includes all the recommendations made to the State under review (SuR) and adopted at the next Human Rights Council regular session. Through this mechanism, States seek to establish an open channel of consultation with civil society allowing for better synergies and leading to mutually beneficial exchanges between the actors involved.

This mechanism provides a great opportunity not only to increase awareness about human rights issues in a country but also to reinforce the national human rights protection system through strengthening institutions, the legal framework for the protection of rights and fundamental freedoms and the capacity of national actors to engage in the promotion and protection of human rights. States' commitments to respect human rights as well as the participatory aspect of the process bolster transparency and accountability and anchor democracy.

#### In-country programme

The In-country programme is the operational programme at UPR Info covering Africa and Asia. It aims at building the capacity of all national stakeholders throughout their UPR process. UPR Info shares knowledge and tools to effectively engage in the process with a particular focus on implementing UPR recommendations. Its operational work in over 30 countries<sup>1</sup> constitutes an excellent basis for extracting good practices in terms of the implementation of UPR recommendations by different actors.

The objectives of this event are to trigger a discussion on the implementation of UPR recommendations, share good practices and address the challenges faced by UPR stakeholders in both monitoring and implementing the recommendations. The event will also serve as a platform to further

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<sup>1</sup> Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea-Conakry, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Madagascar, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Uganda, Uzbekistan.



discuss ways to strengthen synergies and coordination between human rights and development efforts, as well as enhance dialogue between human rights actors and development actors.

**Through on-site or online participation, stakeholders will be able to:**

- Share good practices and success stories with a view to improving implementation in the 4th cycle and discussing ways to address challenges;
- Reflect on the development in recent UPR cycles of tools and practices for implementing recommendations;
- Explore how a more potent synergy between the UPR and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can support implementing the UPR recommendations and realising the 2030 Agenda goals and targets.

**Format**

Representatives of Member States, United Nations (UN) agencies, International Organisations (OI), National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) are invited to share good practices on engaging with the UPR process to foster effective implementation of human rights commitments and tangibly improve the situation on the ground. Participants will also share their experiences (success stories and challenges) on how human rights and development have been jointly implemented and how actors from the two fields collaborated.

The event will be open to both in-person and online participation.

- ❖ To participate **in-person**, please register via the UN INDICO Platform to get the 1-day badge for accessing the Palais des Nations. If you do not have created an INDICO account yet, you will need to do so. Be aware that they will request, among other things: a picture of you and your passport ID.
- ❖ To participate **online** : join by clicking on the link: <https://ungeneva-vc.webex.com/ungeneva-vc/j.php?MTID=m16daa8ed541d2437eb5312965bbe6065>

Please note that the event be in English.

**Programme TBC**

- Welcome by M Gianni Maggazzeni, Chief of UPR Branch, OHCHR
- Moderation by UPR Info and presentation of the operational work
- Statement by the NHRI of Cote d'Ivoire
- Statement by the inter-ministerial committee of DRC (tbc)
- Statement by CSO of Georgia
- Statement by Parliament of Georgia (tbc)
- Statement by UNDP Nepal
- Q&A - Discussion (15min)