



Selected Resources on Sustainable Economic Development, Business and Human Rights

Compiled by GIZ project "Realizing Human Rights in Development Cooperation"

<http://www.gtz.de/human-rights>

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I. Human rights in German development policy

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

Collection of 2-page factsheets that explain what the human rights-based approach in development cooperation means in general and for all priority sectors of German development cooperation. The factsheet on sustainable economic development is on pages 16-17.

http://www.bmz.de/en/publications/topics/human_rights/BMZ_Information_Brochure_7_2010e.pdf
(English)

http://www.bmz.de/de/publikationen/themen/menschenrechte/BMZ_Informationsbroschuere_07_2010.pdf
(German)

II. Human rights reference documents

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

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/cescr.htm> and

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/ccpr.htm>

The main legal reference documents. Among others they contain the freedom and right to earn one's living ("right to work" Art 6 ICESCR), the right to just and favourable conditions of work (Art 7 ICESCR), the right to form or join trade unions (ICESCR Art 8 and ICCPR Art 22), the prohibition of forced labour (ICCPR Art 8), the prohibition of child labour (ICESCR Art. 10), the right to privacy (ICCPR Art.17), and the right to an adequate standard of living and be free from hunger (ICESCR Art 11).

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2005), General Comment No. 18 on the right to work (Art. 6 ICESCR). UN, Geneva.

Interpretation of the legal content of the right to work.

[http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/E.C.12.GC.18.En?OpenDocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/E.C.12.GC.18.En?OpenDocument)

All States parties are obliged to submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights are being implemented. The Committee examines each report and addresses its concerns and recommendations to the State party in the form of "concluding observations".

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cescr/sessions.htm>

Labour Standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO)

The mission of the ILO is to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and dignity (short: "decent work"). The ILO develops international labour standards, monitors their application and provides technical assistance..

- **ILO Conventions and Recommendations** with state of ratification
Special priority is given to the "core labour standards" freedom of association and collective bargaining, elimination of forced labour, elimination of discrimination in employment and

occupation, and the abolition of child labour

http://www.ilo.org/global/What_we_do/InternationalLabourStandards/Introduction/ConventionsandRecommendations/lang-en/index.htm

- All relevant ILO documents by country <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>
- In addition, the ILO website <http://www.ilo.org/> contains countless useful resources, such as on employment promotion <http://www.ilo.org/employment>, multinational enterprises <http://www.ilo.org/multi>, or the inclusion of persons with disabilities <http://www.ilo.org/disability>.

III. Macro economics, poverty reduction and human rights

ODI Briefing Paper (2001), Economic Theory, Freedom and Human Rights: The Work of Amartya Sen, ODI

This 4-pager reviews the ways in which Amartya Sen has focused international attention on the significance of fundamental human freedoms and human rights for development theory and practice.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/RIGHTS/Publications/sen.pdf>

Andy McKay and Polly Vizard (2005), Rights and economic growth: Inevitable conflict or 'common ground'? ODI

This paper briefly discusses the apparent conflict between rights and economic growth, both in conceptual terms and by drawing on frequently quoted examples, such as fast growth in China. It sets out an analytical framework, identifies some of the ways that growth is important in realizing freedoms and rights, and denotes the ways in which key freedoms themselves can be instrumentally important for growth. This leads into a review, by way of specific examples of evidence, on the extent to which a rights perspective has helped to achieve freedoms and growth.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/rights/Meeting%20Series/Growth&Rights.pdf>

Radhika Balakrishnan, Diane Elson, Rajeev Patel (2009), Rethinking Macro Economic Strategies from a Human Rights Perspective, Marymount Manhattan College

This document proposes a novel focus and methodology to evaluate macroeconomic policies from the perspective of the progressive realization of the people's economic and social human rights, and the States' compliance with their minimal, basic responsibilities to their people. It provides both a clear theoretical framework for integrating human rights and economic concepts and a practical guide for applying that framework to real-life conditions, taking into account the recent economic crisis.

<http://www.networkideas.org/featart/mar2009/MES2.pdf>

OHCHR (2004), Human Rights and Poverty Reduction: A Conceptual Framework

This concept paper explains why to use a human rights approach to poverty reduction. Human rights enhance poverty reduction efforts with their focus on equality, empowerment of the poor, participation and accountability. Human rights standards offer benchmarks and indicators for monitoring progress.

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/poverty/docs/povertyE.pdf>

OHCHR (2007?), Principles and Guidelines for a Human Rights Approach to Poverty Reduction Strategies

An explanation of the added value of the human rights approach to poverty reduction and an authoritative guide on how to integrate human rights in PRSPs: in their process of formulation, content, and monitoring.

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/PovertyStrategiesen.pdf>

Marta Foresti et al., ODI (2010), Human rights and pro-poor growth, ODI Project Briefings Nr 34, ODI

This 4-pager summarizes the main findings of the project "Conceptual and operational interfaces between human rights and pro-poor growth" commissioned by OECD/DAC human rights task team. It argues that pro-poor growth and human rights are compatible and complementary approaches. Yet a still limited understanding of their interfaces has impeded institutional integration of these two frameworks in development agencies.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/resources/download/4613.pdf>

UN Practitioners Portal on HRBA Programming – resources on poverty reduction and MDGs

A vast and growing collection of tools and resources on applying a human rights-based approach (HRBA) in development cooperation.

http://hrbaportal.org/?page_id=3203

IV. Private sector development, livelihood approaches and human rights

Heather Gibb, John Foster and Ann Weston (2008), Human Rights and Private Sector Development: A Discussion Paper, The North-South Institute

The study explores the links between private sector development (PSD) human rights based approaches as tools for poverty reduction. The study draws on both a literature review and interviews with selected OECD donor agencies, the ILO, financial institutions and civil society organizations, and finds approaches to both promoting human rights and PSD in developing countries an evolving field.

http://www.nsi-ins.ca/english/pdf/HR_and_PSD_Discussion_Paper.pdf

Caroline Moser and Andy Norton (2001), To Claim Our Rights: Livelihood Security, Human Rights, and Sustainable Development. ODI

This book explores the potential contribution of a human rights perspective to the development of policies and programmes that strengthen the sustainability of poor people's asset and livelihood security. The authors argue that a rights and livelihoods perspective provides a more concrete understanding of social sustainability and sustainable development. The book, which commissioned by DFID and the World Bank, concludes with two propositions for analysing social sustainability from a rights and livelihoods perspective.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/rights/Publications/tcor.pdf>

Marta Foresti, Eva Ludi (2007), Human Rights and Livelihood Approaches to poverty reduction,

This concise briefing paper prepared by ODI for SDC explores the potential synergy between human rights based and livelihood approaches to development and poverty reduction. It maps the key features of the two approaches and their foundation, content and contribution to analyzing poverty in specific contexts, also identifying operational entry points.

http://www.odi.org.uk/rights/Publications/HR_livelihood_approaches.pdf

Tim Conway, John Farrington, Caroline Moser and Andy Norton (2002): Rights and Livelihood Approaches. ODI Natural Resource Perspectives No. 78, ODI

Over the last decade several donors and NGOs (and more recently some partner governments) have adopted a livelihoods approach to development. More recently, there have also been efforts to approach socio-economic development through the framework of human rights. Drawing on case studies of rights-based approaches to livelihood development, this concise 6-page paper briefly reviews the main features of these two approaches, and the possibility of integrating them.

<http://www.odi.org.uk/rights/Publications/NRP78.pdf>

V. Business and human rights

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

Since 2005 Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on business and human rights, John Ruggie, is mandated to explore the challenges related to business and human rights and suggest solutions for addressing these.

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

2008 Report to the UN Human Rights Council, Protect, Respect and Remedy: A Framework for Business and Human Rights (A/HRC/8/16)

The Special Representative's main report laying out the conceptual framework. The site also provides links to the Companion report *Clarifying the Concepts of "Sphere of influence" and "Complicity"* as well as the perception of the report by various actors

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Documents/RuggieHRC2008>

2009 Report to the UN Human Rights Council, Business and human rights: Towards operationalizing the "protect, respect and remedy" framework (A/HRC/8/5)

Follow-up to the main report from 2008.

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Documents/RuggieHRC2009>

International Council on Human Rights Policy (2002), Beyond Voluntarism – Human rights and the developing international legal obligations of companies

The concise and easy to read report discusses the extent to which international human rights law imposes, or is coming to impose, legal obligations on private companies to respect human rights. Most work on corporate accountability has emphasised voluntary approaches such as the Global Compact, corporate codes or NGO initiatives. As the limitations of voluntary approaches become plain, however, companies, campaigners and legal experts are beginning to accept that international law is relevant and the issue of legal enforcement must eventually be addressed.

<http://www.ichrp.org/en/projects/107>

Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

This portal was created at John Ruggie's request to facilitate communication and sharing of materials related to the mandate. It contains countless resources sorted by human rights topics, industrial sectors, and countries. It features among others reports on infringements of human rights by companies and good practices by companies of complying with human rights standards.

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

United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a strategic policy 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.

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

UN Global Compact – guidance material on business and human rights

A long list of guidance material on subjects such as human rights policies, human rights risk assessment, human rights training, human rights impact assessment, specific issues, stakeholder engagement, human rights reporting, grievance mechanisms, legal accountability

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/Issues/human_rights/Tools_and_Guidance_Materials.html

OHCHR, Global Compact et al. (2008), Human rights translated: a business reference guide

In 2008, the UN Human Rights Council produced a conceptual and policy framework to guide the business and human rights agenda. The proclaimed purpose of this encompassing reference tool is to explain "universally recognised human rights in a way that makes sense to business." The publication also aims to illustrate, through the use of case studies and actions, how human rights are relevant in a corporate context and how human rights issues can be managed. The sections are: global business case, strategy, policies, processes and procedures, capacity and capability, and tracking performance.

http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/globalization/business/docs/Human_Rights_Translated_web.pdf

Business Leaders Initiative on Human Rights (BLIHR), OHCHR, Global Compact (2009), Online Guide for Integrating Human Rights into Business Management

Online tool that offers practical guidance to companies wanting to take a proactive approach to human rights within their business operations and is of use primarily to business leaders and managers in large and medium-sized enterprises

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

International Finance Corporation, International Business Leaders' Forum, Global Compact (2010), Guide to Human Rights Impact Assessment and Management

The Guide provides guidance on how to assess and manage the human rights risks and impacts of their business activities through an iterative, dynamic and interconnected process divided into seven stages: (1) preparation and scoping of assessment, (2) identification of human rights risks, (3) engagement with stakeholders, (4) assessment of human rights risks and impacts, (5) mitigation of risks, (6) management, and (7) monitoring and evaluation. (For full access registration required.)

<http://www.guidetohriam.org>