



Progress Report by the Director

For the reporting period of
January to December 2020

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OVERVIEW OF OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC PLANNING DOCUMENTS

UNRISD Strategy

1. 2020 was the final year of the *UNRISD Institutional Strategy 2016–2020: Transformations to Equity and Sustainability*. With this programme of work, UNRISD set out to address topics of current and potential relevance for the most disadvantaged people and countries, recognizing that their progress cannot be disentangled from the imperative of greater equity and sustainability—social, ecological and economic—in countries at all levels of income.

RBM Logframe

2. The Institute's overall objective is to contribute to a better understanding of and greater pluralism in transformative policies, practices and approaches to social development. UNRISD will contribute evidence, analysis, ideas and strategies—co-produced with its research networks and relevant stakeholders—that can shape debates, policy formulation and practices that reduce inequalities in various dimensions, and foster more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development outcomes through implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, with a special emphasis on low- and middle-income countries.

3. The specific objectives are:

- 1: Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.
- 2: Contribute to the capacity development of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of sustainable development issues, through co-design of research methods and a mutual learning approach.
- 3: Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development.
- 4: Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.
- 5: Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.

4. The report covers Institutional Impact Initiatives, the Programme of Research, and Communications and Outreach, demonstrating how the Institute's work in 2020 fulfilled both its overall and specific objectives.

OVERVIEW OF 2020

Responding to Covid-19

5. The Institute's annual reports in 2018 and 2019 highlighted the stable context for UNRISD, thanks to institutional funding agreements in place, a growing stream of funded projects, and work being implemented under the Institutional Strategy 2016-2020. Much of this context characterized 2020 as well, with funding agreements secured with Sweden and Switzerland by mid-year. But in early 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic caused huge disruptions for virtually everyone on the planet, unleashing enormous economic, social and developmental impacts for UNRISD constituencies and those we work with, and for the Institute itself.

6. In the early months of the year, as the world tracked the spread of Covid-19 and began to take the measure of the global health crisis that was unfolding, UNRISD stood in solidarity with all the families and communities suffering losses. As UN personnel, we found ways to adapt and cope with our professional responsibilities to co-produce and communicate the best evidence-based research, and deliver on our commitments. Thanks to quick adoption of home-working technology, UNRISD shifted rapidly to the new situation in order to continue engaging with our networks and stakeholders. Applying an UNRISD perspective to the pandemic, focusing on social justice, equity and inclusion, took centre-stage in the early months of the year.

7. In pivoting to design a timely and relevant response to the Covid-19 situation in line with UNRISD's strategic focus, mission and mandate, the Institute directed its inquiry towards the uneven distribution of impacts of both the pandemic and the crisis response, as well as the social, political and economic drivers of these disparities. Our attention focused on vulnerable groups, motivated by the principles of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first. UNRISD had a rich body of research and analysis to draw upon. The long-standing focus on more equal and resilient systems that is emblematic of the Institute's work is highly relevant in emergency and crisis situations. And as the world faced a global pandemic that both exposed and exacerbated inequalities, this substantial body of work provided important insights and lessons: the imperative of universalism in social policies; that there can be no resilience without social and environmental justice; the gendered impact of crises and policy responses; the need for renewed commitments to international solidarity and multilateralism; and the role of research in making sense of the crisis.

8. With a blog series, online survey, report, and launch webinar in line with the UN's broader Covid Response initiatives, UNRISD successfully engaged its networks and drew on its vast body of social development research to provide evidence-based insights into the crisis as it developed and evolved throughout the year. Through this work we were able to present viable approaches for (re)building social, political and economic systems to bring about lasting transformative change, that will not only leave us better prepared for future crisis events, but also support a vision of social justice, equality and sustainability, as laid out by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Working in New Ways

9. 2020 changed how UNRISD works, but not what we do. The response to Covid demonstrated UNRISD's agility in adapting to emerging priorities, even as productivity was maintained in other areas, including research undertaken, outputs issued, and innovative ways of networking and engaging with our stakeholder audiences. Our ability to host in-person events at the Palais des Nations and further afield changed, with some impact on the number and nature of activities. Here the Institute shifted to the virtual sphere, holding online events that enabled us to reach more geographically diverse and in many cases larger audiences.

10. Shifting even more of our work into the virtual sphere also allowed the Institute to expand the use of online methods of engagement with our network that had been introduced in the past (such as the 2016 Flagship Report pre-publication consultation, the first of its kind for a major UN report). In 2020 we carried out an online survey for the Covid-19 initiative, and another to solicit feedback from recipients on their use and expectations of the UNRISD eBulletin; and held virtual consultations for the Institutional Strategy development; and the collection of inputs via online Evidence Boxes for the Science to Practice project.

Advancing Institutional Initiatives

11. There was much progress on a number of other institutional initiatives in 2020.

12. The UNRISD Bonn Office was officially opened in February, with funding from Germany's Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Federal Foreign Office, and began implementation of an active work programme to create new collaborations and strengthen research uptake linkages to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Bonn has become the centre for the UN's climate and sustainability efforts, hosting over 20 UN organizations working around these issues and providing a fertile ecosystem for this area of UNRISD work, and in particular the strengthening of the social dimensions of sustainability.

13. We focused on rebuilding capacity in the gender and development programme, achieving a number of milestones. The scoping study to identify cutting-edge and policy-relevant research themes around which to build a new gender programme at UNRISD was concluded. Following a competitive recruitment process, Francisco Cos-Montiel joined UNRISD in November to lead the new programme: Gender Justice and Development. His initial priority is to seek new research partnerships and raise funding that will ensure the programme's sustainability.

14. Linked to the ethos of the Bonn office described above, the International Geneva "Science to Practice" initiative was led by UNRISD in 2020 with funding from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. This is a consortium of Geneva-based institutions working to amplify the impact of research and knowledge from International Geneva on policy and practice for the SDGs. It will deliver concrete contributions to the HLPF in July 2021 in the areas of human well-being and capabilities; sustainable and just economies; and food systems and nutrition patterns, in line with the SDGs being reviewed.

15. Work commissioned to UNRISD by UNHCR and UNDP was carried out to design a theory of change (ToC) for solutions to protracted displacement based on the

integration of humanitarian, development and peace interventions. With the successful delivery of this contribution in 2020, UNRISD research has given important support to the programming and operations of these two major agencies, and thus the lives and livelihoods of millions of highly vulnerable people around the world.

16. Throughout the course of 2020 UNRISD organized a number of consultations with different stakeholders, and an online survey with its network, to help shape the next institutional strategy. These gave strong support for the overall framing of the strategy to be based on tackling inequalities through transformative change. The institutional strategy will be published in early 2021, following approval from UNRISD's Board.

17. Throughout the second half of 2020, UNRISD supported the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services on their risk-based audit of UNRISD's operations. No significant preliminary findings were conveyed during the exit interview which took place in December 2020, while eight recommendations were made for increasing efficiency and transparency in the governance, programme management and general management of the Institute. The draft report is expected in January 2021.

18. In 2020 UNRISD mourned the loss of former Director Thandika Mkandawire, who passed away on 27 March in Stockholm. Thandika was the Director of UNRISD from 1998 until his retirement from the UN in 2009. A piece In Memoriam was written by UNRISD colleagues who had worked with Thandika, and posted on the UNRISD website, alongside a tribute by former UNRISD Senior Researcher Yusuf Bangura.¹

Delivering Ongoing Programmes and Projects

19. Finally, UNRISD continued to deliver the research, communications, policy engagement and knowledge exchange activities foreseen in the annual workplan and the final year of its Institutional Strategy 2016-2020. A wide range of research activities, events and outputs were delivered during the reporting period with the aim of supporting the UN family and global development community in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, even as progress on these global frameworks faced severe challenges and setbacks due to the pandemic.

20. The key focus of the Social Policy and Development programme was on better understanding and addressing inequalities, in the context of the SDGs as well as the Covid-19 pandemic. Work included completion of the project on Universities and Social Inequalities in the Global South; various publications related to the International Call for Papers Conference in 2018; and contributions to the international research hub on South-South Migration, Inequality and Development (MIDEQ).

21. Work under the Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development programme continued in two main streams: social and solidarity economy (SSE) and sustainability

¹[https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/\(httpNews\)/E8AF500FF7D30F5F8025853B00548C86?OpenDocument](https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/(httpNews)/E8AF500FF7D30F5F8025853B00548C86?OpenDocument)

metrics; and climate justice. Highlights within the first area were the publication of practical guidelines for SSE policies for local governments, and of a suite of outputs around a ground-breaking report *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?*, which argues for repurposing corporate sustainability disclosure and reporting so they truly measure and promote substantive progress towards achievement of the SDGs. In the area of climate justice, work with the Just Transition Research Collaborative found new forms of digital engagement and outreach, for which a series of six webinars was a highlight. Local stakeholders from Jakarta and Ho Chi Minh City were consulted on the findings of the research on transformative adaptation in coastal cities, and three research papers were published.

22. Under the Gender and Development programme, the first phase of the VoiceIt project concluded. In addition to its advisory role and support to communications for the project, UNRISD conducted background research and drafted inputs for *Strengthening LGBTQI+'s Voice in Politics: Policy Report* as well as a blog "Rights Through Representation: How UNRISD Research is Contributing to LGBTQI+ Inclusion in Politics"

Summarizing Results

23. Results obtained during the reporting period are summarized in the RBM Logframe. The Institute's performance reflects the high level of research and advisory activities undertaken; the size and diversity of the network; the relevance of events convened; and above all the continued commitment to how UNRISD approaches research: co-production and capacity-strengthening of our research counterparts in the global South and young scholars; and an unwavering dedication to research uptake through strong communications and outreach.

24. The size of the network engaged in the Institute's research, events and other activities was 420, with 156 from the global South and 201 women. 76% of research activities included analysis and evidence relevant for LICs and LDCs, and 52% of contributors to research outputs were women. In this way the Institute's products continued to provide a platform for knowledge and voices from the most disadvantaged countries and for a gender equality perspective.

25. During the reporting period, UNRISD:

- Produced and disseminated over 90 research-based outputs, including 27 working papers, research papers and occasional papers; one edited volume comprising 13 peer reviewed chapters; five policy briefs, and 19 blogs and think pieces.
- Added 14 videos and one podcast to our multimedia resource repository; and achieved over 379,268 video views via YouTube (due in large part to one video "going viral"), and over 132,369 podcast downloads.
- Produced six issues of the eBulletin and posted 11 online news articles, in addition to the posting of new content several times per week; dispatched two issues each of the targeted eNewsletters developed specifically to deliver the most relevant UNRISD content directly to member state delegations in Geneva, and UN development policy and research entities.

- Organized (or co-organized) 18 outreach events, over one third of which involved partners from other UN, academic, government or civil society entities, and six project workshops.
- Extended our followings on social media (including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn) as channels for outreach and interaction, with nearly 34,000 Twitter followers @UNRISD, and over 25,300 likes on Facebook.
- Continued developing “suites” of research outputs grouped around a single major body of research, allowing multiple entry points and alternative channels to access the material. Examples of this approach in 2020 included outputs for the projects Sustainable Development Performance Indicators, and Integrated Solutions to Protracted Displacement (see below for more details).
- Took a lead role in the International Geneva initiative, From Science to Practice: Research and Knowledge to Achieve the SDGs.

Operations and Financial Situation

26. Income for the reporting period was approximately USD 3.036 million and expenditure was approximately USD 2.730 million. As a result of careful financial management, some cost-saving due to restrictions in place due to Covid-19 (less travel, for example), and the allocation of some personnel charges to research projects, the Institute’s financial reserves increased to approximately USD 1.807 million at the close of the year. Investments were made in research capacity for the gender and development programme and on other institutional priorities including our work on Covid. Significant challenges remain on the horizon, however. Institutional funding from Sweden and Switzerland is set to conclude with the current agreements, and so the Institute is exploring all avenues for sustainability beyond the end of 2022. Work began in 2020 on these fronts, including the establishment of working groups and the initiation of consultancies to revisit and reassess objectives and approaches in terms of diversification of resources, and to explore alternative institutional settings.

UNRISD is a voluntarily funded organization and receives no support from the general budget of the UN. We are grateful to all our funding partners for their support. Where noted in the text, “institutional funds” refers to unearmarked institutional contributions received during this reporting period from the governments of Sweden, Switzerland and Finland.

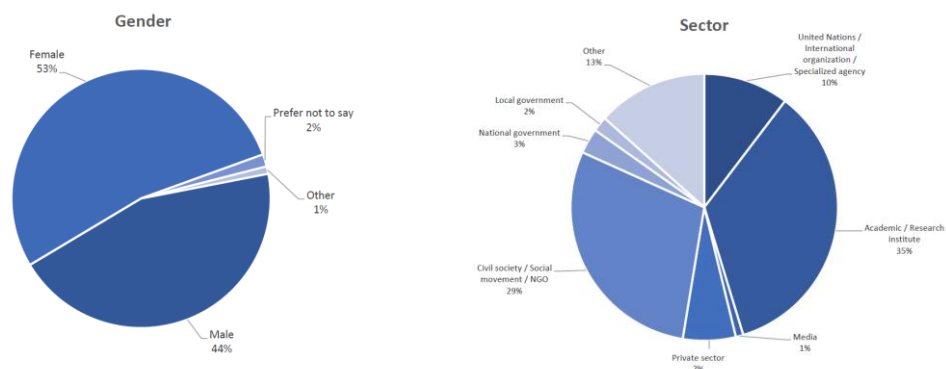
INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT INITIATIVES

Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis

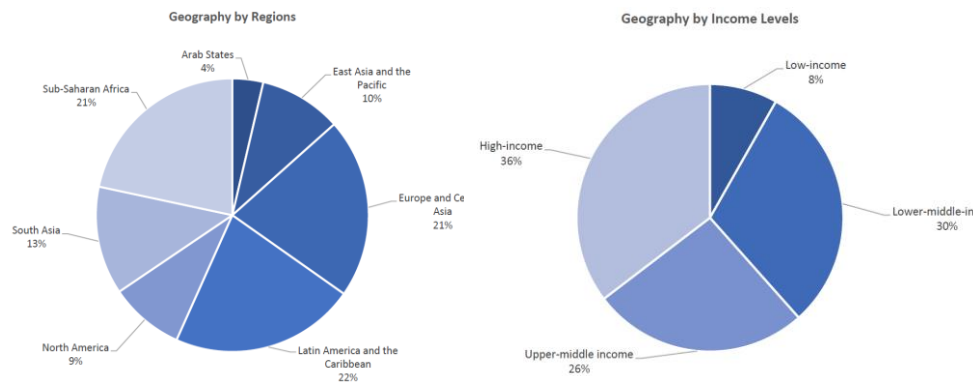
27. In pivoting to provide a timely and relevant response to the Covid-19 situation during the first half of the reporting period (via a global survey, a report, a webinar and a blog series), UNRISD had a rich body of research and analysis to draw upon: the long-standing focus on more equal and resilient systems that is emblematic of the Institute's work over decades is highly relevant in emergency and crisis situations and has been valuable as the global community has sought its way through the current pandemic.

28. The Institute drew on the knowledge and expertise of its global network, as well as this reputational capital, when it launched a survey in April 2020, primarily targeted at its network of academics and practitioners. The objective was to gain rapid insight into how Covid-19 policies and interventions (by governments and non-state actors) were affecting vulnerable individuals, groups and communities; and from that propose evidence-based recommendations on how they could be better designed to ensure that the Covid-19 response leaves no one behind (while bearing in mind that there could be no one-size-fits all answers). Given the timing of this initiative, when many low-income and least developed countries were typically seeing relatively low infection rates and policies were still taking shape, there was a window of opportunity for informed analysis to provide added value in such contexts. UNRISD published its report, *Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis*, and launched it in a webinar, in July.²

29. The UNRISD Covid-19 survey was open from 27 April to 21 June in English, French and Spanish (with participants invited to use a web-based translator for responses in other languages). It was promoted extensively to UNRISD audiences using all our standard channels: a news item on the UNRISD website, through the UNRISD eBulletin, emails to our 20,000-strong subscriber list, personal outreach to researchers' networks and on social media (primarily Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn). 329 responses were received, with the following profile.



² <https://www.unrisd.org/covid-19-vulnerable-groups-report>



30. The survey responses confirmed that, as a result of lockdowns, many people around the world faced a terrible choice between lives and livelihoods. The report presents the main trends, effectiveness and unintended consequences of policies and other interventions brought to light by the survey; and discusses good practices, as well as what more could be done to protect and support vulnerable groups now and going forward. Taken together, these unique insights should help inform the design of future policies and interventions to leave no one behind in addressing this pandemic, as well as public health crises to come.

31. On 9 July UNRISD convened a webinar titled “Lives or Livelihoods? Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis”³ to launch the report, with opening remarks from Dr. David Nabarro, the WHO Covid-19 Special Envoy. Speakers were Eva Bortolotti and Paul Ladd, the authors of the UNRISD report, and the discussant was Rockaya Aidara, Policy Specialist at the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).

32. 133 participants joined the event, while the webinar video subsequently posted on UNRISD’s YouTube channel has been viewed 500 times. The report was downloaded over 750 times by the close of the reporting period. The Covid-19 blog series has achieved 3,768 pageviews on the UNRISD website.

33. Following a request from UN Publications, the UNRISD report was included in the United Nations iLibrary (the global search, discovery, and viewing source for digital content created by the United Nations).⁴

34. Seven blogs were published in the UNRISD Covid-19 series, in English and in French.⁵ Some were original contributions and others were re-posts.

- *Shake and Stir: Adding a Human Security Lens to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (14 Jul 2020) | Gabriele Köhler, Des Gasper, Richard Jolly, Tamara A. Kool, Mara Simane
 > *Secouez et remuez : Ajouter une perspective de sécurité humaine à l'Agenda 2030 pour le développement durable*
- *We Need a Green and Just Transformation to Recover from Covid-19* (2 Jun 2020) | Isabell Kempf, Dunja Krause
 > *Nous avons besoin d'une transformation verte et juste pour nous remettre du Covid-19*

³ [https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/events.nsf/\(httpEvents\)/D53143451DE52B4C802585980033986D?OpenDocument](https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/events.nsf/(httpEvents)/D53143451DE52B4C802585980033986D?OpenDocument)

⁴ DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18356/83cf830f-en>

⁵ <https://www.unrisd.org/covid-19-series>

- *Covid-19 Sends the Care Economy Deeper into Crisis Mode* (4 May 2020) | Silke Staab
 > *Le Covid-19 accélère la crise de l'économie des soins*
- *Creating Crisis-Resistant Policies and Institutions Post-Covid-19: Learning from UNRISD Research* (14 Apr 2020) | Ilcheong Yi
 > *Concevoir des politiques et des institutions résistantes à la crise après-Covid-19: Tirer les leçons des recherches de l'UNRISD*
- *The Future of Work in the Post-Covid-19 Digital Era* (8 Apr 2020) | Maria Mexi
 > *L'avenir du travail à l'ère numérique post-Covid-19*
- *Our Common Right to Health* (8 Apr 2020) | Gabriele Köhler
 > *Notre droit commun à la santé*
- *How Social Development Steps Up To The Plate in Times of Crisis: Learning from the Past, Surviving the Pandemic, Creating Sustainable Futures* (7 Apr 2020) | UNRISD
 > *Comment le développement social répond aux défis en temps de crise: Tirer les leçons du passé, survivre à la pandémie, créer un avenir durable*

From Science to Practice: Research and Knowledge to Achieve the SDGs

35. A consortium of Geneva-based institutions created a further channel in 2020 through which research and knowledge from research entities in International Geneva, and their global partners, can amplify their impact on global policy making. This built on two previous events that explored how science can be translated into policy and action. The first was a two-day round-table discussion on strengthening the uptake of United Nations research, held in April 2016. The second was a conference on the theme “From Science to Practice”, held in December 2019. UNRISD was a co-organizer of the event along with partners from think tanks, governmental bodies and international organizations based in Geneva. It brought together key actors to discuss barriers to research uptake, and to brainstorm ways to strengthen interactions between the worlds of science and policy. A final report, *From Science to Practice: Strengthening Research Uptake to Achieve the SDGs*, was published in March 2020.⁶

36. Drawing on these earlier activities, in 2020 UNRISD, along with the Geneva Science-Policy Interface, the Think Tank Hub, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network in Switzerland and the SDG Lab, and funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, launched a call for submissions of evidence on critical SDG topics that are being reviewed at the 2021 UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). The call for evidence focuses on three entry points: human well-being and capabilities; sustainable and just economies; and food systems and nutrition patterns.

37. The call was publicized via an extensive communications campaign: as well as featuring in the UNRISD eBulletin and an email to subscribers (which was opened by nearly 4,000 individuals), considerable word-of-mouth promotion was undertaken, with personal emails sent to individuals identified by UNRISD researchers in their networks. Social media was also a key tool in this campaign, because it enabled more targeted promotion to the three different subject areas. Communications support on

⁶ <https://www.unrisd.org/science-to-practice-report-2019>

a similar scale was also vital to the recruitment of the experts tasked with reviewing the submissions received.

38. The evidence received in response to the call will be synthesized in three papers to be presented and discussed in Geneva in early 2021, followed by seminars in Geneva and New York to engage with the broader audience of the HLPF.

39. In May, UNRISD Research Analyst Maggie Carter contributed a piece about the conference takeaways, titled “From Science to Practice: Strengthening Research Uptake to Achieve the SDGs”, in the EADI Blog: Debating Development Research. The piece was also reproduced on the UNRISD website (with permission).

Start date: 2020 – End date: 2021

UNRISD role: Lead and coordinator of consortium

Partners: Geneva Science-Policy Interface, Think Tank Hub, Sustainable Development Solutions Network in Switzerland, SDG Lab

Total amount of earmarked funding: USD 160,000 from the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

This activity is led at UNRISD by Paul Ladd (director) with assistance from Maggie Carter (research analyst) and the Communications and Outreach Unit.

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council

40. The theme of the 2020 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council was “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: Realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. In the light of ongoing Covid-19 concerns, many of the meetings and sessions were hosted virtually. Evidence from UNRISD research was nonetheless a vital component of both high-level activities, contributed via interventions in official sessions, thematic consultations, and online workshops.

41. The Institute’s report on Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups through the Covid-19 Crisis formed the basis for the intervention by the Director of UNRISD during the official meeting of the HLPF on the theme “Are we leaving no one behind in eradicating poverty and working towards the 2030 Agenda? (including what Covid-19 is telling us about inequalities and the weaknesses in our social systems)”, held on 9 July.

42. UNRISD also engaged with the substantive preparation for the thematic sessions, as a co-convenor (with DESA, ILO, UN-Women and the World Bank) of the virtual consultation on the theme “Responding to the economic shock, relaunching growth, sharing economic benefits and addressing developing countries’ financing challenges” and as a contributor of expertise to the workstream on the theme “Bolstering local action to control the pandemic and accelerate implementation”. The Institute’s evidence-based inputs to these thematic consultations were based on the Covid-19 activities initiated in 2020, and ongoing projects under the programme on Social and Solidarity Economy.

43. UNRISD expertise on just transitions contributed to an online workshop on the theme “Sustainable and just economies: Lessons learned from the Covid-19 crisis and enabling factors for the SDGs”, on 10 July. This was part of the Sustainable Development Goals learning, training and practice component of the HLPF, organized by UNDESA (Division for Sustainable Development Goals) and UNITAR. The workshop aimed to enhance capacity of stakeholders via a range of channels, from knowledge and skills acquisition to networking, peer to peer exchange, and policy coherence. UNRISD’s partners for the online workshop were international organizations (ILO Green Jobs Programme, UN Global Compact, UNCTAD) and civil society actors (International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific / IWRAP Asia Pacific, Global Reporting Initiative / GRI, Women’s Major Group / WMG, World Benchmarking Alliance). This capacity building session was attended by over 300 people on Zoom, and livestreamed via YouTube.

Development–Environment–Peace Nexus: Peace Making in Borderlands (DEEPEN)

Background

44. The DEEPEN conference grew out of a preliminary project idea conceived during the reporting period to identify interlinked challenges and explore integrated and holistic approaches to realizing the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in borderlands. In such settings, security and self-protection tend to dominate decision making and action, while social and human development imperatives, or environmental protection, take a back seat.

45. Borders and borderlands are often the main sites of inter-country conflicts. They are also sites of (illegal) migration, including from developing countries to more wealthy ones, and of smuggling and illicit trafficking of both goods and people. As such, they are often fortified or militarized zones, which may cause significant disruption of existing ecosystems. The core problems of inequality, security-centred policy approaches, and disregard for natural ecosystems are closely related. When peace is narrowly defined as the absence of conflict, strength and weakness may persist along with inequality between winners and losers. Peace broadly defined, or “peace by peaceful means”, instead, envisages a distribution of resources and power that is acceptable to all parties involved.

46. Ilcheong Yi and his team worked with partners in the Republic of Korea to organize a conference to explore diverse approaches to peace by peaceful means in borderlands. As microcosms of interlinked risks and, at the same time, laboratories of change, borderlands are valuable sites for exploring the possibilities for holistic and integrated approaches to peace and sustainable development.

International conference

47. Despite research on many issues related to borders and borderlands, policy decision making and institutional design for sustainable development in borderlands—particularly as they relate to peace, environment and development—have been constrained by the siloed approaches of separate academic disciplines and the resulting lack of integrated approaches. In order to enrich discussions on integrated policies for

peace, development and environment in borderlands, UNRISD partnered with the NGO, People for Earth, as well as the Gangwon Provincial Government and the Cheorwon County Government (Republic of Korea), to co-organize an international conference inviting 54 prominent scholars and practitioners working on issues at the intersection of development, environment, peace and border studies.

48. The UNRISD communications team, in close cooperation with People for Earth, created an UNRISD webpage for the conference with relevant information and a link to the registration website managed by People for Earth. Careful attention was paid to harmonizing information and visuals between the two websites for coherent branding of the event. The UNRISD communications team promoted the conference via the eBulletin, emails to subscribers and social media.

49. The conference, “Development, Environment and Peace Nexus (DEEPEN): Peace Making in Borderlands”, took place online on 3-5 December. Participants shed light on “borderland blindness” in the current state/capital-centred approach in policy and research; highlighted the challenges and opportunities for peace making in and beyond borderlands; and introduced approaches and practices that contribute to sustainable development and peace in and beyond borderlands in different parts of the world. Limitations of peace building as a top-down process framed by state-centred approaches, or “colonialist” ones in which external experts take the lead in “solving” indigenous “problems”, or over-reliance on outsiders’ skills and expertise, were discussed, as were the benefits and advantages of bottom-up, local, grassroots, community-centred approaches.

50. Participants introduced a number of theoretical models, such as “earth jurisprudence”, “bio-diplomacy”, “harmony with nature”, and “rights to nature in the ecozoic era”. These approaches broaden rights holders beyond humans to other living organisms and surrounding nature (the biosphere), moving beyond anthropocentrism. The co-creation of ideas, plans and policies, including the formation of new epistemic communities for social and cultural cooperation, is central to making these approaches work in borderlands. Concrete experiences of integrated and holistic approaches to peace by peaceful means were also presented. The full conference programme is available at <https://cheorwonforum.org>.

51. The Conference was broadcast live, in English and Korean, through YouTube. Nearly 2,800 viewers tuned in for some or all of the sessions over the three-day event. Videos remain available on YouTube.⁷

52. A number of United Nations agencies—including UNDP, UNODC, UNMAS, UNEP, UNDP, and UNWTO—demonstrated their interest by participating in the conference, and/or subsequent follow-up with UNRISD. They welcomed this original initiative seeking to create a space for interdisciplinary discussion of these issues specifically for borders and borderlands. Showing growing concerns about the problems associated with border conflicts and crimes and their legacies, the participants from the UN agencies argued for the necessity asserted the importance of transdisciplinary, integrated approaches.

53. In 2021 a conference brief will be published. The UNRISD research team and partners also intend to draw on the conference outcomes to develop a full project proposal and seek funding for it.

⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCm0jnUR5pTmLGQZ-PTEDjtA/videos>

Start date: 2020 – End date: 2020

UNRISD role: Conference partner

Partners: People for Earth,; Gangwon Provincial Government, Cheorwon County Government (Republic of Korea)

UNRISD's participation in this activity was supported by institutional funding.

The conference was coordinated by Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator) with assistance from Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kameni Chaddha (research intern).

The Success of the “Embedded Impact” Approach

54. In addition to the institutional impact initiatives described above, there were also several state-of-the-art “embedded impact” initiatives under way during the reporting period. Beyond the usual practice of identifying interesting research gaps, carrying out high-quality research and communicating it to likely interested communities, embedded impact initiatives represent the height of the Institute’s policy-engaged research process. They identify interested stakeholder communities up front, and engage with them throughout the project duration in a process of transdisciplinary co-creation of the project and its outputs. Through this process, the communities are engaged and have greater ownership of research uptake.

55. The advantages of this process are obvious: the research is designed to be useful to the communities involved, who feel empowered by their central role in creating the research. The following sets out three examples of UNRISD research projects using this model in 2020.

Sustainable Development Performance Indicators

56. Key actors in the sustainability accounting field have been involved in this project from the very start, in the form of the Advisory Board, which comprises practitioners, UN experts and senior academics. The first major activity of the project was an international conference (held in 2019) which convened, in a global first, representatives of the various stakeholder groups that engage with the topic from different perspectives: standard setters from the private sector, the UN and the social and solidarity economy (SSE), academics and practitioners. Together they identified areas for improvement in current reporting initiatives, particularly on strengthening the social dimensions and contextualizing environmental impacts.

57. During the reporting period, the project developed a new set of performance indicators filling identified gaps in the sustainability accounting field, based on research which built off the shared insights of the stakeholder groups who met at the conference. In 2021, driven by participants in the project, the new indicators will be pilot tested in 20 economic entities from the for-profit and the SSE sectors, meaning that their feedback will be directly integrated into the main output of the project. This process of co-creation increases the credibility of the output and therefore the likelihood of it being taken up by further practitioners, once it is published and released for general use by the community.

58. In the case of this project, the uptake is likely to be high because some of the practitioners engaged in the project see the output as a potential addition to their business model, so the input they have provided so far is an investment they would

like to see pay off. The engagement of other UN organizations in the project has been high (including through close cooperation with UNCTAD), meaning the chances of political uptake in the UN system are also strong.

Promoting SSE through Public Policies: Guidelines for Local Governments

59. The major output of this project is a set of guidelines to help grow the social and solidarity economy (SSE) at the local level. The guidelines will help policy and decision makers at the subnational level carry out an objective, comprehensive mapping of the current public policy and institutional landscape that impacts the “local” social and solidarity economy, and identify future directions for its balanced and integrated development. As part of the project design process, the team consulted with policy makers⁸ in a variety of governance structures across three continents to ascertain the gaps in their knowledge and experience that UNRISD research could usefully fill.

60. Using this knowledge, seven case studies were commissioned in the reporting period across several continents to learn more about policy making on SSE at city level in diverse contexts. These then formed the basis for the guidelines. The research involved contacting local government officials, which then facilitates engagement and uptake of the research.

61. In the case of Dakar, the connection was more specific, leading to direct research impact. The case study writers, themselves SSE practitioners, were invited by the Municipal Council of Dakar to present their results in early December 2020. The Council decided to provide the final paper to every policy maker in Dakar (2,500 copies to be printed), and a launch event is planned for February 2021 (a *cérémonie de restitution*) in the presence of the mayor of Dakar and the Director of UNRISD. Subsequently, the city’s Local Development Plan for the Social and Solidarity Economy (the Plan Local de Développement de l’Economie Sociale et Solidaire) will be launched to fill the major gaps in local SSE policies identified in the paper.

62. The closeness of this research project to practitioners in its inception and implementation has been key to achieving this impact. Going forward, it is hoped that the example of this research uptake in Dakar may inspire other local authorities and practitioners in a similar direction.

Integrated Solutions to Protracted Displacement

63. This research was commissioned to UNRISD by two major UN entities: the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in pursuit of a joint goal: to improve coherence and synergies between interventions deployed by development, humanitarian and peace actors in situations of protracted forced displacement. UNRISD developed a theory of change (based on an extensive scoping study and background paper) and practical guidance for an integrated humanitarian, development and peace nexus approach to forced protracted displacement. A Research and Policy Brief for ease of communication completes the set of outputs.

⁸[https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/\(httpNews\)/4A5B2CAF09E80237802584D3002E66DA?OpenDocument](https://www.unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/(httpNews)/4A5B2CAF09E80237802584D3002E66DA?OpenDocument)

64. The research was overseen by an advisory group from the two commissioning UN entities, ensuring the proximity of the research to the needs of the implementing agencies (while at the same time leaving enough latitude for the research to be independent). As the research was commissioned to meet an identified operational need, the likelihood of it being used in practice can be considered very high. Follow-up activities and discussions are planned for 2021.

PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH: TRANSFORMATIONS TO EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY—SUPPORTING THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

65. Through its programme of research, communications, policy engagement and knowledge exchange, and with a wide range of research activities, events and outputs delivered during the reporting period, UNRISD undertook the final year of its ambitious institutional strategy, and continued to support the UN family and global development community in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals—even as progress on these global frameworks faced severe challenges and setbacks due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Institute demonstrated again its relevance and value as a knowledge hub and convening platform for critical work on social and sustainable development and governance. Work was pursued on projects under the three programme areas: Social Policy and Development; Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development (including one body of work on Climate Justice, and another on Social and Solidarity Economy and Sustainability Metrics); and Gender and Development.

Social Policy and Development

66. Social policy is a crucial instrument for implementing and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring that equity, social justice and human rights are guiding principles for all actors and interventions. The Social Policy and Development programme seeks to provide new knowledge and evidence to inform development thinking and practice, combining work on conceptual and policy innovations, as well as policy, institutional and political analyses at national, regional and global levels.

67. In the reporting year, the programme's key focus was on better understanding and addressing inequalities, a top priority in recent discussions on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Work on this research inquiry included completion of the project on Universities and Social Inequalities in the Global South; various publications related to the International Call for Papers Conference in 2018; and contributions to the international research hub on South-South Migration, Inequality and Development (MIDEQ).

68. In parallel with the ongoing work on inequalities, a significant accomplishment in 2020 was the initiation and successful completion of work commissioned to UNRISD by UNDP and UNHCR: the development of a theory of change using the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP or “triple nexus”) approach that will be used by these agencies to inform their strategic planning and immediate, mid- and long-term programming. This work represented an opportunity for UNRISD to affect positive impacts for displaced populations numbering in the millions, host populations and host governments.

69. Other programme results included the publication of the edited volume, *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development* (Katja Hujo, ed., with Palgrave Macmillan), and of the UNRISD Research Paper, *The Gender Implications of Transformations in the Copper Value Chain: A Case Study of the Zambian Copperbelt* (by Hanna Haile).

Advancing Sustainable Development through Integrated Solutions to Protracted Displacement: A Theory of Change

Background

70. By the end of 2020, almost 80 million people were recorded as forcibly displaced and 4.2 million as stateless. Many displaced populations are in protracted situations, commonly understood as five years or more in duration, and the numbers of protracted displaced persons is increasing annually.

71. As a result of increasing numbers of protracted displacement situations, and a renewed emphasis on integrated humanitarian, development and peace interventions, the UNDP and the UNHCR commissioned UNRISD to develop a theory of change (ToC) for integrated solutions to protracted displacement, based on the triple nexus, which can be refined following field testing. The finalized ToC is intended to inform strategic planning and immediate, mid- and long-term UNDP-UNHCR programming, to maximize positive impacts for protracted displaced populations, host populations and host governments, as well as to identify ways of strengthening potential collaboration that integrates humanitarian, development and peace interventions. The study also highlights the practical challenges and examines best practices and guiding principles for such interventions.

Progress and activities

72. The project has developed a theory of change for an integrated triple nexus approach to forced protracted displacement.

73. In 2020 UNRISD carried out interviews and background research of key literature and of relevant initiatives to inform the ToC, and convened an online consultation meeting with UNDP and UNHCR staff at global, regional and country levels to discuss the draft ToC document.

Key findings and recommendations

74. The ToC is visualized in a diagram which helps to identify opportunities for UNDP-UNHCR collaboration and to understand how interventions contribute to the HDP nexus. The ToC report explains the opportunities and challenges associated with a HDP nexus approach, its vision and outcomes, the intervention areas across the three pillars of the nexus: basic needs (humanitarian pillar); services, livelihoods, employment, social protection (development pillar); and soft and hard peace (peace pillar); as well as the process of transitioning from parallel humanitarian systems to national solutions. The cross-cutting issues of legal identity and protection, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, gender and diversity, and environment are mainstreamed through each pillar but can also form distinct programme interventions.

75. To operationalize the ToC for protracted displacement and inform the design, funding, management and review of nexus projects or programmes, the following set of **principles** should be applied:

- shared vision among all stakeholders about the composition and objectives of HDP nexus interventions, the potential for transition and the timing for initiating longer-term responses;
- exit strategy, to build stability and to work toward longer-term solutions;
- ongoing context analysis to inform vision, relevant interventions, implementing partners, monitor progress and be responsive to changing environments;
- strong leadership and effective coordination to create a positive working environment and effective communication; and
- flexible multi-year funding to facilitate long-term planning.

76. The ToC further identifies **best practices** in applying a triple nexus approach in UNDP-UNHCR collaborations in situations of protracted displacement:

- Shared analysis and context-specific responses
- Long-term strategies and sustainable capacity
- Prevention, mediation and peacebuilding
- Coordination and leadership
- Financing

77. Key areas for **UNDP-UNHCR collaboration** are

- Legal identity and protection
- Governance and rule of law
- Livelihoods, employment opportunities and social protection

78. **Key recommendations** emerging from the project:

- The HDP nexus approach has the potential to result in more holistic and integrated interventions of different actors from the humanitarian, development and peace sectors, creating coherence, complementarity and more effective planning for emergency, disaster or conflict prevention and preparedness, as well as longer-term responses once situations become protracted.
- Implementing a triple nexus approach is not without challenges. It requires political will and leadership, good working relationships between agencies and implementing partners at the country or regional level, an enabling environment in host countries and international donor circles, and the willingness to break up siloed thinking within and across agencies and sectors.
- Humanitarian principles and human rights need to be respected, as well as the development priorities and capacities of host countries, which might require longer-term financial support and technical assistance to ensure provision of rights and services for displaced and host populations.
- Interventions need to be gender-sensitive, conflict-sensitive, protective of the environment and conducive to sustainable development, ideally resulting in either integration into national systems, third country settlement or voluntary return. Interventions must be based on extensive research and analysis to understand context, identify needs

and entry points, and develop long-term plans for addressing root causes of problems.

- The HDP nexus approach can never be a blueprint, it requires careful adaptation to each context and a whole-of-government and multistakeholder process to achieve transformative outcomes.

Outputs

79. Four outputs were jointly published by UNRISD, UNDP and UNHCR during the reporting year:⁹

- Policy-oriented strategic report, including theory of change and practical guidelines: *Responding to Protracted Displacement Using the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approach: UNDP and UNHCR Theory of Change* – Rebecca Roberts
- Background paper on HDP nexus approach: *The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: Towards Differentiated Configurations* – Sebastian Weishaupt
- Literature review and scan of existing HDP nexus initiatives: *Responding to Protracted Displacement Using the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approach: Scoping Study* – Rebecca Roberts
- Research and Policy Brief summarizing the key elements of the ToC, as a practical guide for policy staff in the two agencies

Outreach and Impact

80. With this work commissioned by UNHCR and UNDP, UNRISD has the potential to influence the programming and operations of these two major agencies, and thus the lives and livelihoods of millions of highly vulnerable people around the world. The results should further contribute to a more holistic approach to analysing, understanding and addressing protracted displacement, its root causes and consequences, in line with the vision of the SDGs to move beyond siloed thinking and interventions.

81. It is foreseen to adapt the ToC to concrete country contexts in a field-testing phase, and conversations have been initiated with El Salvador and Guatemala, and Niger. Uptake and dissemination has been negatively affected by Covid-19, as country offices in the global South are operating under difficult circumstances and in emergency situations. The documents have been disseminated through UNRISD communication channels (including e-newsletters, website, and social media) and to UNDP and UNHCR staff at headquarter, regional and country levels. The reports will be used in future training activities of UNHCR on the triple nexus approach to protracted displacement.

Start date: January 2020 – End date: September 2020

Total amount of earmarked funding: USD 92,000 from UNHCR with funding from the Japanese government (JICA)

UNRISD role: Organization and coordination of research commissioned by UNHCR

Partners: UNDP and UNHCR

Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) coordinated the work on this project, Rebecca Roberts was a senior consultant in the project, Sebastian Weishaupt contributed as research intern and Maggie Carter as research analyst.

⁹ <https://www.unrisd.org/integrated-solutions-protracted-displacement>

Overcoming Inequalities in a Fractured World: Between Elite Power and Social Mobilization

Background

82. Now regularly acknowledged as one of the greatest challenges of our time, and amplified during the Covid-19 pandemic, inequalities of wealth and income as well as disadvantages related to gender, ethnicity and race, sexual orientation, disability or health status, location and citizenship status, are not only detrimental to sustainable development and poverty reduction, they also undermine social cohesion and social justice.

83. In 2018, UNRISD launched a significant research inquiry and embarked on a range of activities on the topic of inequalities, their root causes, political drivers and developmental and social outcomes, starting with an open call for papers and an international conference in Geneva titled “Overcoming Inequalities in a Fractured World: Between Elite Power and Social Mobilization” (Progress Report 2019 paragraphs 43-69). This initiative sought to shine a spotlight on inequality not only as it affects the “bottom of the pyramid”, but also in relation to elite power and various forms of social mobilization pushing back against it.

84. The project continued in the reporting year with a variety of activities and outputs such as publications, dissemination of research findings and networking, as well as the successful completion of a sub-project on Universities and Social Inequalities in the Global South.

Activities and Outputs

Occasional Paper series

85. In an effort to showcase the excellent research presented at the UNRISD Overcoming Inequalities conference in November 2018 and continue engaging with research networks working on inequalities and elites, an occasional paper series was launched in 2019 and continued in the reporting year. The externally peer-reviewed paper series, consisting mostly of papers which were originally presented in draft form at the conference, will conclude in early 2021. Nine papers were published in the reporting year.

- *Creative Coalitions in a Fractured World: An Opportunity for Transformative Change?* – Gabriele Köhler (February 2020): The paper explores movements for climate justice, refugee rights, gender justice and broad civil rights in Germany and the United States and discusses their commonalities, strengths and shortcomings, asking whether these creative coalitions could counter the power of economic interests and retrogressive government policies. It argues that they need to be further analysed, using innovative research approaches.
- *Achieving SDG 10: A Global Review of Public Service Inclusion Strategies for Ethnic and Religious Minorities* – Ghazala Mir, Saffron Karlsen, Winnie Mitullah, Upendra Bhojani, Benjamin Uzochukwu, Chinyere Okeke, Tolib Mirzoev, Basse Ebensso, Naila Dracup and Gary Dymski, Doan Thi Thuy Duong, Bui Thi Thu Ha, Steve Ouma, Felicia Onibon, Joyce Ogwezi and Shahab Adris (February 2020): This paper presents results of a systematic review on strategies for the inclusion of minority ethnic and religious communities in four public service areas: education, health, local government and police services. The findings show that inclusion strategies that address macro, meso and micro level drivers of

exclusion are needed to achieve the aspirations of SDG 10, and that involving affected communities is key to their success.

- *Le processus d'appauvrissement des classes moyennes en Haïti et ses conséquences économiques et sociales* – Alrich Nicolas (March 2020): The study analyses the collapse of the old middle classes in Haiti and its consequences on the social and economic dynamics of the country. A decline of the middle classes triggered by neoliberal policies and the impacts of severe natural disasters has made it easier for economic elites to gain control over state institutions, contributing to a delegitimization of the state in the eyes of the people and considerably reducing the influence of the middle classes in the definition of public policies, with adverse consequences for an economic, social and political reform project in the country.
- *Inequality, Power and Policy Change: How Chile Moved Towards Greater Political Transparency* – Bettina Schorr (March 2020): This paper analyses the political process that led to the relatively progressive political transparency governance scheme in Chile, an outlier in a region which scores poorly regarding the adoption and implementation of political transparency rules. It identifies the mechanisms and factors that shaped the political process in such a way that political reforms for greater transparency were enacted.
- *Seeing Inequality? Relative Affluence and Elite Perceptions in Mexico* – Alice Krozer (May 2020): Based on over 40 in-depth interviews with members of the Mexican elite, this paper examines how the dissonance between elite perceptions and measured economic status matters for the social construction and perpetuation of inequality. This unique empirical data reveals that the “wealth bubbles” within which elites exist lead to an experience of relative affluence. Consequently, despite showing concern about inequality and its negative effects, elites underestimate their own position in the overall income distribution, re-centering the distribution around their own incomes.
- *Elites and Inequality: A Case Study of Plutocratic Philanthropy in the UK* – Luna Glucksberg and Louise Russell-Prywata (July 2020): This paper investigates the role of elite philanthropy in the context of rising global inequality, asking whether large-scale philanthropic donations by elites are well placed to help tackle structural inequality. The challenges posed by such “plutocratic philanthropy” are explored through analysis of a network of the top 30 philanthropists in the United Kingdom and their connections to businesses and foundations. From this data, the paper develops an analysis of the current landscape of inequality, arguing that elite philanthropy as an ecosystem—made up of capital, people and institutions—is not well placed to systemically challenge inequalities, because the financial size of elites’ philanthropy tends to be dwarfed by their business activities, and the social functions of philanthropy help maintain the advantaged positions of elites.
- *Two Decades Under Windmills: Energy Transition and Entrenched Inequalities in La Venta, Mexico* – Gerardo A. Torres Contreras (August 2020): This paper analyses the process through which wind energy expansion has exacerbated patterns of rural inequality in La Venta, Mexico, the site of the first wind energy project in Latin America, established in 1994. By analysing data on de-regularized landownership in the *ejido* and by drawing on fieldwork interviews, the paper shows that land has been concentrated in a few hands and that there has been a gradual productive shift from agriculture to cattle grazing activities. Asymmetric wind energy rents not only reinforce this trend but also result in

different material and social relationships associated with wind energy, with actors benefiting from it in various ways—or not benefiting at all.

- *(Re-)Negotiating Gender and Class: New Forms of Cooperation Among Small-Scale Fishers in Tamil Nadu* – Nitya Rao and R. Manimohan (August 2020): This paper explores new forms of cooperation emerging among small-scale fishers along the east coast of Tamil Nadu, as responses to wider transformations in fisheries and coastal landscapes. Based on data collected from a survey of 200 households and in-depth interviews with 20 households in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu, the paper explores the processes of negotiation and renegotiation of both gender and class identities, and their intersections. It considers whether, and how, new institutional practices and forms of cooperation (and conflict) are enabling a more equitable sharing of resources and benefits, and in which ways they are further entrenching inequalities.
- *Business Elites in Panama: Sources of Power and State Capture* – Julian Cardenas and Francisco Robles-Rivera (November 2020): This paper investigates the sources from which Panamanian business elites draw their power—income control, business cohesion, political campaign contributions and revolving doors. Results show that state capture arose in Panama along with high income concentration among top elites, cohesion among a small cluster of family business groups, big businesses coordinating their electoral contributions, and appointments of businesspeople to strategic government positions. The paper suggests possible avenues of research to continue deciphering state capture, and provides some policy recommendations to reduce state capture in Panama.

86. Two further papers are planned for publication in early 2021:

- *The Political Power of Economic Elites in Contemporary Western Democracies* – Alberto Parmigiani
- *Consent to Pay Taxes and Expectations of the State: Perceptions of the Chilean Economic Elite* – Jorge Atria, Julius Durán and Simón Ramírez

Journal special issue

87. A proposal for a special issue of the journal *Critical Social Policy* on “Social Protection and Inequality in the Global South: Politics, Actors and Institutions”, guest edited by Katja Hujo, was accepted by the journal’s editorial collective in 2020. A set of six articles and the editorial introduction were submitted in March; three articles and the introduction were accepted and are forthcoming in August 2021.

Edited volume

88. Another of the project’s key outputs is a forthcoming edited volume (Katja Hujo and Maggie Carter, eds.) compiled from selected conference papers. After a peer review process, the proposal was accepted by Zed Books/Bloomsbury Publishing and a contract was signed, with an expected publication date in early 2022.

Other outreach activities

89. Katja Hujo presented findings and recommendations emerging from the Overcoming Inequalities research at various events during the year.

- Online presentation on “Transformative Policy Innovations for Leveraging and Realizing the SDGs” BC Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC Canada) “Web Panel: The Sustainable Development Goals and Transformational Change”, 28 February

- Online presentation on “Overcoming Inequality – Between elite power and social mobilization” at “Research Colloquium on Sustainable Social Development: Inequality and Sustainability”, University of Bern, Centre for Development and Environment, 5 May
- Online presentation for students from University of Kassel and Rutgers University, 26 May
- Speaker on the closing panel on: “Towards transformation: A matrix for breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality and ensuring accountability” at the 2020 Social Forum hosted by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, 9 October
- Pre-recorded session for the UN Data Forum 2020 for a panel discussing the theme: “Follow the Money: Analysing social spending for the most deprived and marginalized (Indicator pro-poor public social spending 1.b.1)”, 19-21 October

Start date: 2018 – End date: 2021

The Overcoming Inequalities in a Fractured World project is funded by UNRISD institutional funds.

UNRISD role: Initiation, organization and coordination of research

Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) is coordinating the work on Overcoming Inequalities in a Fractured World. In 2020, she was assisted by Maggie Carter (research analyst) and Sebastian Weishaupt (research intern).

Universities and Social Inequalities in the Global South

Background

90. The project, launched by UNRISD in 2019, explores the role of universities in reinforcing or reducing social inequalities (Progress Report 2019 paragraphs 70-75). The project looks especially at universities in low- and middle-income countries, given the huge growth in demand for higher education, the important role they play for development, and the challenges they are facing in these regions. The objective of the project is (i) to contribute to a better understanding, based on new empirical evidence, of the role of universities in reducing social inequalities and contributing to sustainable development; and (ii) to raise evidence-based recommendations for the innovative design and implementation of tertiary education policies that lead to transformative institutions and outcomes, contributing to sustainable development and the implementation of SDG 4.

91. This project started in January 2019 with a call for expressions of interest. Out of 90 proposals submitted, six papers were commissioned and five have been published as UNRISD Working Papers. The papers explore issues related to higher education and inequality in seven countries: Brazil, Chile, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Peru and Senegal.

Activities and outputs

92. The following Working Papers were published during the reporting period:

- “A Public and a Private University in One”: *Equity in University Attendance in Kenya Since the Liberalization Reforms of the 1990s* – Rebecca Simson and J. Andrew Harris (March 2020)

- *Climbing the Ladder: Determinants of Access to and Returns from Higher Education in Chile and Peru* – Anja Gaentzsch and Gabriela Zapata-Román (April 2020)
- *Inequalities in Higher Education Access and Completion in Brazil* – Tristan McCowan and Julio Bertolin (April 2020)
- *Higher Education Expansion and Social Inequalities in Sub-Saharan Africa: Conceptual and Empirical Perspectives* – Yann Lebeau and Ibrahim Ogachi (October 2020)

93. The last Working Paper from the project, *Leaving No One Behind in Ghana through University Education: Interrogating the Spatial, Gender, and Class Dynamics* (by Jasper Abembia Ayelazuno and Maxwell Akansina Aziabah) as well as an UNRISD Research and Policy Brief, *Universities and Social Inequalities: Lessons from Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa*, are forthcoming in January 2021.

Findings and Policy Recommendations

94. Several papers explored the trend of increasing numbers of higher education institutions in many countries, finding that this process, rather than making university accessible to all, reinforces inequalities and often creates new ones. They identified various factors that influence the outcome of higher education expansion, such as admission processes, funding schemes, regional distribution, gender relations and access to quality secondary education. Several papers explored the bifurcated systems that have arisen in some countries through the introduction of fee-paying programmes or private institutions, and the impact this has had on social mobility and inequality more generally. While horizontal inequalities, in particular for women, ethnic or racial minorities and rural populations, have improved in some cases, these groups also find themselves disproportionately in lower quality for-profit institutions, courses with lower labour market returns, or distance education. Challenges remain in relation to income or class inequalities, with poorer students being disadvantaged in university access and labour market opportunities, a trend that is reinforced if poverty intersects with other disadvantages related to gender, location, ethnicity or race, and parental education.

95. Policy recommendations highlight the adverse implications for inequality and social mobility of for-profit higher education and fee-paying programmes, and emphasize the need to:

- expand high-quality, free-of-charge provision of public secondary and tertiary education in combination with affirmative action policies;
- further develop accessible quality distance education; and
- link tertiary education with labour market policies that increase employment opportunities for young people.

Start date: 2019 – End date: 2020

Total amount of earmarked funding: USD 24,000 from the University of British Columbia, through a partnership with Professor Ananya Mukherjee Reed, plus additional support from UNRISD institutional funds.

UNRISD role: Initiation, coordination of call for expressions of interest, publication of papers, co-development of research proposal.

Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) and Maggie Carter (research analyst) are coordinating the work on Universities and Social Inequalities in the Global South. In 2020, they were assisted by Sebastian Weishaupt (research intern).

South-South Migration, Inequality and Development Hub (MIDEQ)

Background

96. The South-South Migration, Inequality and Development Hub (MIDEQ) is one of 12 UK Research and Innovation Global Research Hubs that received funding in December 2018 through the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF). The key objective of MIDEQ is to develop an interdisciplinary, evidence-based understanding of the complex and multifaceted relationships between South-South migration, inequality and development, on which policy makers, programme specialists and funders can draw to ensure that the development potential associated with South-South migration is maximized for individuals, households, communities and the countries of the global South. The theory of change for the project has three key objectives:

- Promoting academic capacity building and knowledge development
- Changing lives of migrants and their families and communities
- Supporting and influencing narrative change about migration and inequality

97. UNRISD is a partner organization in this project, led by Coventry University (Prof. Heaven Crawley). The project was officially launched in February 2019 and will run over five years. For additional project background and past activities, see the 2018 Progress Report (paragraphs 139-145) and 2019 Progress Report (paragraphs 89-95).

Progress and activities

98. During the reporting year, UNRISD research coordinator Katja Hujo worked closely with the Gender Work Package (WP1): participating in team meetings; providing various inputs and comments on research design, literature reviews, surveys, impact strategies and theory of change; co-organizing an internal online workshop on gender and migration (September) and co-drafting a related blog; and participating in the following Hub online webinars.

- Theory of change and international organizations partners (21 September)
- Methodological implications of Covid-19 for MIDEQ's research (24 September)
- Methodological implications of Covid-19 for MIDEQ's research: Insights from the Ethiopia-South Africa corridor, Cote D'Ivoire, Egypt and China (17 November)
- Covid-19 and the resilience of systemic suppression, oppression and repression (delivered by Prof. Francis B. Nyamnjoh, University of Cape Town, 24 November)
- Exploring arts as research not as afterthought (1 December)
- MIDEQ survey, with a focus on sampling (8 December)
- MIDEQ theories of change (15 December)

Online workshop—Gender

99. Katja Hujo co-organized the WP1 workshop on Gender and South-South Migration to reflect on (i) shared understandings of key concepts on gender, migration and inequality from the perspective of the migration corridors under investigation; and (ii) the collaborative relationships and practices that were established in the project to date, and how to build on these going forward. This two-day virtual

workshop took place on 12-13 September with the project country teams involved in the gender work package (Ghana, China, Malaysia and Nepal; colleagues from Haiti were unable to join on this occasion). The aim was to:

- deepen collaboration and foster mutual understanding across the teams working on gender;
- strengthen synergies in theoretical and conceptual approaches; and
- identify specific research interests and challenges across different migratory contexts and teams.

MIDEQ blog series

100. Katja Hujo co-authored a blog piece for the Hub website, “Decolonising gender and migration research through collaborative thinking and practice”¹⁰ in order to summarize some key findings from the above workshop. The post focuses on gendered approaches to migration, intersectionality, and decentring gender and migration research.

Start date: 2019 – End date: 2023

Total amount of earmarked funding (expected): USD 175,000 (approx.) from UK Global Challenges Research Fund (via Coventry University), plus additional support from UNRISD institutional funds

UNRISD role: Member of a research consortium

Partners¹¹: 20 leading universities, ODI and PositiveNegatives; six international organizations—the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNRISD; and numerous local organizations in the 12 countries in which the hub works: Burkina Faso, Brazil, China, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal and South Africa
Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) is coordinating the UNRISD contribution to this project

Other Programme Results and Activities

Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development— Edited volume published

101. An edited volume, *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development* (Katja Hujo, ed.) was published in 2020 as part of the UNRISD/Palgrave Macmillan series, *Social Policy in a Development Context*¹². This is the 18th title to be published in the series initiated by UNRISD in 2004.

Valueworks—Gender study published

102. In the reporting year a publication related to the Valueworks project (see Progress Report 2019 paragraphs 76-88) was published as an UNRISD Research Paper: *The Gender Implications of Transformations in the Copper Value Chain: A Case Study of the Zambian Copperbelt*, by Hanna Haile. The study finds that increased financialization of

¹⁰ <https://www.mideq.org/en/blog/decolonising-gender-and-migration-research-through-collaborative-thinking-and-practice/>

¹¹ Full list at www.coventry.ac.uk/research/research-directories/current-projects/2019/ukri-gcrf-south/

¹² <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/series/14480>

global production networks in general and the copper value chain in particular, as well as privatization of mines, has direct and indirect impacts on lives and livelihoods at sites of extraction in the Copperbelt. These are manifested in casualization of labour, emphasis on profit maximization over other societal and environmental goals, employees' increased reliance on debt as a result of job insecurity, and, to some extent and on a more positive side, erosion of gender stereotypes and gendered division of labour.

GCRF Cluster Project: Partnerships for Equity and Inclusion

103. UNRISD is a partner in this collaborative project, which aims to produce multidisciplinary perspectives and new knowledge on how public services can act as a mechanism to increase the social inclusion of disadvantaged groups, in particular ethnic and religious minorities, in ODA-eligible contexts. 21 ODA-eligible countries are covered: in Africa (Ethiopia, Liberia, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Africa, Uganda, Zimbabwe); in Asia (Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam); and in North America (Haiti).

104. There are 25 co-investigators/partners are involved. UNRISD's tasks in the project are participation in international workshops and support for the development of pilot studies; sharing knowledge and expertise; contributing to outputs from the Partnership's activities; and supporting dissemination.

105. The project is led by Ghazala Mir (University of Leeds), who invited UNRISD to join following her participation in the 2018 UNRISD Overcoming Inequalities conference and authorship of a paper in the UNRISD Occasional Paper series.

Start date: 1 June 2020 – End date: 31 May 2021

Total earmarked funding: USD 8,000 from University of Leeds, with funding from GCRF

UNRISD role: Project partner and advisor

Katja Hujo leads UNRISD's participation in this project, with assistance from Maggie Carter (research analyst).

World Social Work Day at the UN in Geneva

106. As in previous years, UNRISD, the Geneva School of Social Work and international partners were set to mark World Social Work Day at the UN in Geneva with a rich programme of activities. Keynotes by Yvonne Riaño, a geographer working on inequalities, and Aruna Roy, co-founder of one of India's leading civil rights organizations, were planned, as were six workshops exploring the relevance and impacts of community action around the globe to strengthen social justice and sustainable practices.

107. The event, planned for 18 March, was postponed owing to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. "Community Engagement for Social Justice" will instead be the focus of World Social Work Day 2021, which is being organized as a virtual event and will incorporate a session on social work and the implications of Covid-19 for vulnerable groups

Programme Development and Future Directions

108. 2020 marked the final year of the UNRISD programme on Social Policy and Development in its current form. As UNRISD embarks on a new Institutional Strategy for 2021-2025, the work will evolve according to new priorities, with a focus on inequalities and a new eco-social contract. The new programme title will be Transformative Social Policy, underscoring UNRISD's conceptual framing of social policy as a development and human rights instrument for production, reproduction, protection, redistribution and social inclusion. Work on inequalities, including migration and inequalities, will continue under the new programme title. The changes will retain the core focus areas of research and analysis, while allowing for clearer branding and messaging at the programme level. In view of the new institutional strategy, the programme description and key research areas were developed and consulted with stakeholders in 2020.

Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development

109. The UNRISD programme on Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development focuses on understanding, analysing and engaging with processes of policy change that can tackle unsustainable practices, climate change and inequalities. The work entails attention to the intersectionality of social, environmental and economic issues at different levels of governance, and builds on UNRISD's legacy of a holistic and integrated approach to development and transformative change in support of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

110. In 2020, work under the programme continued in two main streams: social and solidarity economy (SSE) and sustainability metrics; and climate justice. Within the first area, highlights were the finalization of seven city case studies and *Guidelines for Local Governments on Policies for Social and Solidarity Economy*, under the project Promoting SSE through Public Policies; a number of publications issued from the project Sustainable Development Performance Indicators, including a suite of outputs around the ground-breaking report *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?*, which explores how and why corporate sustainability disclosure and reporting must be repurposed if they are to measure and promote substantive progress towards achievement of the SDGs. The prototype indicators for for-profit enterprises and SSE organizations and enterprises were also finalized in view of pilot testing to begin in January 2021. Focusing on the application of transformative concepts and theories to both policy and practice, the outputs of these projects are expected to make a significant contribution to policy agenda setting, design and implementation at various levels of governance across the sectors.

111. In the area of climate justice, work was carried out for two main projects focusing on just transition to low-carbon development, and transformative adaptation to climate change in coastal cities. Work with the Just Transition Research Collaborative continued and found new forms of digital engagement and outreach, for which the series of six webinars was a highlight. A series new think pieces was curated for the JTRC online forum, with two posted in 2020 and three planned for early 2021. Work on transformative adaptation in coastal cities experienced some delays as project plans had to be adjusted to the Covid-19 pandemic. Highlights of the year included the consultation of findings with local stakeholders and the publication of the three main substantive outputs. A Research and Policy Brief, and videos presenting the research

findings and recommendations from Ho Chi Minh City and Jakarta, will be delivered in early 2021 to conclude the project.

Sustainable Development Performance Indicators

Background

112. The reporting period was the second year of this four-year project funded by the Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies (Republic of Korea). The project aims to contribute to the measurement and evaluation of the performance of a broad range of economic entities—both in the for-profit sector and in the social and solidarity economy—in relation to the vision and goals of the 2030 Agenda, by ensuring that contextual factors and social dimensions receive appropriate consideration. While the assessment of economic performance and environmental impacts are widespread across all types of business entities, whether in the for-profit sector or the social economy, social sustainability impacts are arguably receiving less attention. UNRISD is well placed to contribute to this field. For further background on this project, see paragraphs 143-152 in the 2019 Progress Report.

Progress and Activities

Corporate sustainability accounting

113. A suite of outputs were published around the ground-breaking report *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?*, which explores how and why corporate sustainability disclosure and reporting must be repurposed if they are to measure and promote substantive progress towards achievement of the SDGs.

- *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing? (Full Report)* – Peter Utting and Kelly O’Neill
- *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing? (Overview)* – Peter Utting and Kelly O’Neill
- *Fair Remuneration: Tackling Both the Top and Bottom of the Income Pyramid* (Research and Policy Brief)
- *Gender Equality in the Workplace: Measuring What Matters for Transformative Change* (Research and Policy Brief)
- *Measuring Corporate Sustainability: Towards Accounting Fit for the SDGs* (Research and Policy Brief)
- *Reconfiguring Power Relations: The Missing Link in Sustainability Reporting* (Research and Policy Brief)

114. This body of work is one of the main outputs of the first phase of the project. The research highlights:

- major achievements and challenges as seen from the perspective of some of the key players in the field of corporate sustainability disclosure and reporting;
- the inherent limits of mainstream approaches to sustainability accounting from the perspective of transformative change;
- issues, indicators and targets that need to be addressed if corporate sustainability performance and disclosure are to contribute in any meaningful way to realizing the SDGs.

115. The work presents a four-pronged argument. First, generating and reproducing an economic system that is conducive to sustainable development through corporate responsibility will depend not only on making progress on the performance issues and indicators that are currently the main focus of conventional reporting. Such progress also depends crucially on addressing a set of issues and corresponding indicators that relate directly to the structural underpinnings of (un)sustainable development. Particularly important are conditions associated with distributive (in)justice, inequality and skewed power relations, which are often neglected within the field of corporate sustainability reporting.

116. Second, while corporate environmental performance is often poor, there have been some notable innovations and improvements in environmental disclosure with the emergence of more meaningful indicators, as well as science-based targets. Such improvements need to be replicated in other dimensions of sustainability related to social development and democratic governance.

117. Third, conventional disclosure focuses heavily on qualitative indicators, notably elements of a management system deemed necessary for enhanced sustainability performance. Such indicators often serve as a proxy for concrete improvements in performance. Far more attention needs to be focused on quantitative metrics and indicators that measure actual levels and variations of impact. Also key are time series data that capture trends, as opposed to annual snapshots, and more granular reporting that can reveal significant variations in performance within corporate structures and value chains.

118. Fourth, progress associated with transformative change involves not only addressing the structural determinants of unsustainable development but also a journey towards certain thresholds and patterns of fair resource allocation. It is these thresholds and “fair allocations” that define sustainable development when understood in terms of intra- and intergenerational equity, thriving and regeneration, and not simply in terms of incremental reductions in negative impacts. Unless a company sets a target that reflects a sustainability norm, neither its management nor other stakeholders can know where that company is positioned in relation to sustainable development.

Three-tiered System of Sustainable Development Performance Indicators

119. The UNRISD research team, members of the Advisory Group and invited experts held a series of online workshops between March and June in order to finalize a three-tiered system of sustainability indicators for for-profit enterprises (FPEs) and social and solidarity economy organizations and enterprises (SSEOEs). The prototype indicators were also finalized in view of pilot testing to begin in January 2021.

- **Tier I: Incrementalist Numeration.** Numerator indicators focus on actual impacts, including absolute indicators, as well as relative or intensity indicators that are non-normative (UNCTAD’s 33 core indicators)
- **Tier II: Contextualized Denomination.** Denominator indicators contextualize actual impacts by providing normative targets or thresholds based on international norms, best practices and scientific evidence. Also known as “Context-Based” indicators, denominator indicators take into account sustainability thresholds in ecological, social, and economic systems, as well as allocations of those thresholds

to organizations and other entities. (19 indicators which contextualize selected UNCTAD core indicators)

- **Tier III: Activation of Transformation.** Transformative indicators add the elements of implementation and policy to normative denominator indicators, to instantiate change within complex adaptive systems. Tier III has 27 indicators for FPEs and 44 indicators for SSEOs. They measure performance in fair remuneration; gender equality, corporate taxation, labour rights, responsible/ethical sourcing, corporate political influence, performance accounting, fines and settlement, environment, information sharing, democratic governance and empowerment, employment, training and work integration, and resilience.

Communications and outreach

120. UNRISD organized a special session on “Sustainable Development Performance Indicators for the SSE: How to measure progress towards the SDGs” at the GSEF Global Virtual Forum in October in which around 100 practitioners from SSE and for-profit sectors participated. The UNRISD research team and experts from the project’s Advisory Group spoke on the potential and limitations of existing sustainability reporting, and presented the three-tiered SDPIs.

121. In collaboration with r3.0, an international NGO promoting context-based sustainability reporting, UNRISD held a set of webinars on 11 November and 16 December to introduce the three-tiered system of SDPIs. Participants came from the fields of sustainability reporting and impact investing, as well as from SSEOs.

122. UNRISD presented the three-tiered SDPIs at the 37th International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (ISAR) meeting organized by UNCTAD. This is a meeting of the United Nations focal points on accounting and corporate governance matters, including enhancement of the role of enterprise reporting on attaining the SDGs.

123. UNRISD was successful in engaging a number of relevant UN system entities producing principles and indicators for sustainability reporting. UNDP, UN Global Compact, UNDESA Statistics Commission and UNCTAD agreed to join the Institute in forming a UN system-wide working group to discuss harmonization and standardization of sustainability reporting indicators and principles.

124. Training workshops for participants in the pilot testing of the SDPIs is planned for January to March 2021. This will be followed by the pilot testing itself, from April to June 2021, during which end users from over 20 FPEs and SSEOs will run beta tests in their enterprises. They will then provide feedback about the indicators’ relevance, applicability, design, formulation, presentation, etc. This data will be used to fine-tune the indicators and will also offer insight into sustainable development performance in the participating entities. Full deployment of the indicators is planned for 2022.

Start date: 2018 – End date: 2022

Total earmarked funding: USD 941,600 from the Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies, Republic of Korea

UNRISD role: Initiation, coordination and implementation of research project

Funder and partner: Center for Social Value Enhancement Studies.

Partner: r3.0 and UNCTAD

The project is coordinated by Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator). In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kameni Chaddha (research intern).

Social and Solidarity Economy

125. To realize the transformative vision and aspiration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, policy and practice must attend to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development in a holistic, integrated and balanced manner. Concerns about the consequences of market- and corporate-led development are growing, reigniting interest within knowledge, advocacy and policy circles in alternative ways of organizing production, exchange, finance and consumption that may be more environmentally sustainable and socially just. The term social and solidarity economy (SSE) is used to describe activities undertaken by enterprises or other organizations based upon principles and practices of participatory cooperation, solidarity, collective action, distribution of benefits and democratic self-governance.

126. SSE, an integrative, people-centred and planet-sensitive approach, puts sustainable development at the centre of its activities. SSE's potential and actual impacts on various dimensions of sustainable development have gained attention from policy makers more than ever in the context of the Covid-19 crisis. SSE organizations and enterprises in many countries, through their production and distribution of goods and services based on the principle of solidarity, have played a significant role in addressing some of the pandemic's devastating impacts, including job loss and precarious work, or the lack of food and nutrition for those paid daily or working in the informal sector.

127. Through several research projects in its SSE portfolio, UNRISD is assessing the institutional and policy environments for SSE at global, regional, national and local levels, and exploring the different ways SSE is contributing to the implementation and achievement of the SDGs, and response to Covid-19 crisis.

128. Five projects were under way in this area of work during the reporting period, including a newly funded initiative to develop an SSE Encyclopedia.

Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator) coordinates the Institute's activities in the area of SSE. In 2020, the SSE team comprised Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kameni Chaddha (research intern).

Promoting SSE through Public Policies: Guidelines for Local Governments

Background

129. The project was initiated with funding from the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) in July 2019 and was finalized during the reporting period. It aimed to provide guidance on public policies to promote SSE at the subnational level. Based on case studies of seven cities (Barcelona, Dakar, Durban, Liverpool, Mexico City, Montreal and Seoul) which have developed policies, programmes and institutions for the social and solidarity economy, the project identified the key elements and good practices of "SSE ecosystems", and, on that basis, produced guidelines that policy makers can use

in their own cities to design, implement and assess public policies and institutional frameworks that support SSE organizations and enterprises.

Progress and activities

Publications

130. Six case studies papers were published as UNRISD Working Papers during the reporting period.

- *Public Policies Fostering the Social and Solidarity Economy in Barcelona (2016-2019)* (in both Spanish and English) – Rafael Chaves-Avila (University of Valencia, Spain), Jordi Via-Llop (former Commissioner for Barcelona City Council, Spain), and Jordi Garcia-Jané (University of Valencia, Spain). The case study discusses Barcelona’s new holistic SSE policy approach, the *Pla d’impuls de l’economia social i solidària* (Plan to Boost the Social and Solidarity Economy – PIESS) which entails participation of public sector and SSE actors, a transformative socio-political perspective, and innovations in local public and private sector institutions. The research highlights the importance of creating a “space of participation and dialogue” for “community-public partnership”—that is, between the public sector and a variety of stakeholders for local socioeconomic development, adaptation of the public administration to this partnership, and the simultaneous development of a conceptual identity and organizations of SSE.
- *Creating an Enabling Environment for the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) through Public Policies in Durban, South Africa* – Susan Steinman (Gordon Institute of Business Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa). The case study explains the co-construction process of SSE policies, which is central to the enabling environment for SSE in Durban city. The research identifies local government policies to explain innovative tools and approaches in addition to financial and technical assistance. They include commissioning municipal works to workers’ cooperatives, enhancing cooperation between SSEOs, connecting universities with SSEOs, and assisting informal workers to organize themselves in the form of SSEOs. It further discusses the collaborative process to develop the Municipality’s Cooperative Development Plan as a model for replication throughout the country.
- *Public Policy and Devolved Governance: Facilitating the Social and Solidarity Economy in the Liverpool City Region* – Helen Heap (University of Liverpool, UK), Alan Southern (University of Liverpool, the UK) and Matt Thompson (University of Liverpool, the UK). The case study discusses approaches adopted by the Liverpool City Region government to SSE under a set of new national policies to encourage a more enterprising mindset, establish a territorial governance mechanism of city-region government, and incorporate economic, social and environmental values in public service provision. It highlights the positive impacts of this territorial governance mechanism on SSE, such as the adoption of SSE as mainstream economic policy and the creation of an organization to give a political voice to SSE at the city-region governance level. Such innovative approaches pave the way for further development of policies for SSE at the local level in the context of a still highly centralized state.
- *Políticas de fomento de la economía social y solidaria: Estudio de caso de la Ciudad de México* – Juan Jose Rojas Herrera (Chapingo University, Mexico) and Roberto Cañedo Villarreal (Guerrero University, Mexico). The case study analyses the design and implementation of public policies to promote SSE in Mexico City between 2016 and 2019, and

recommends policy actions for further development of SSE within and beyond Mexico City. Despite modest growth of SSE between 2015 and 2018 due to the development of favourable policies, there are gaps and challenges at both local and national levels holding back further development of SSE in Mexico City. Administrative centralization, austerity policies, retrenchment of experienced staff, weak legal frameworks for SSE, and insufficient budgets to support SSEOs have meant that cooperatives have been the main focus of public policy attention, leaving out other types of SSE entities. The research recommends ways to fill the policy gaps, including the introduction of longer-term planning, stronger coordination across government entities, and the development of spaces for inclusive policy dialogue and capacity building.

- *Public Policies Enabling the Social and Solidarity Economy in the City of Montreal* – Marguerite Mendell (Concordia University, Canada), Nancy Neamtan (Chantier de l'économie sociale and TIESS, Canada) and Hyuna Yi (C.I.T.I.E.S., Canada). The case study describes the development of the Montreal social economy from 2013 to 2019 with a focus on the roles of the provincial and federal governments. The Montreal city government has limited capacity, in the Canadian political system, to design and implement policies for SSE. But horizontal and vertical partnerships (or policy linkages) among SSEOs, the city government and the provincial government of Quebec laid the basis for successful co-construction of policies which contributed to the growth of the SSE in Montreal. A key lesson drawn from the research is the importance of establishing a range of policy approaches, processes and institutions to promote SSE. These include an integrated ecosystemic approach that incorporates the social economy into an overall vision of ecological and social transition in an urban setting, and government-SSE relations based on partnerships and not on the subordination of the social economy to a particular political agenda or public administration.
- *Policy Systems and Measures for the Social Economy in Seoul* – Kil Soon Yoon (Sungkonghoe University, Republic of Korea) and Sang Youn Lee (Sungkonghoe University, Republic of Korea). This case study discusses the current institutional and legal landscape for SSE promotion in Seoul which has led to a thriving SSE sector. The paper explains the legal and institutional frameworks, social finance, public procurement, education and training, as well as public awareness campaigns which constitute the social economy ecosystem of Seoul. It highlights the simultaneous development of national and Seoul city-level policies and institutions for SSE as a feature of Seoul's SSE ecosystem. Seoul's SSE ecosystem faces various policy challenges, however, such as fragmented support systems and resources skewed to procurement and social finance markets which may negatively affect the self-reliance efforts of SSEOs.

131. The final city study, on Dakar, was finalized during the reporting period and will be published in January 2021.

- *Expérience de la ville de Dakar dans la conception, l'exécution et l'évaluation des politiques publiques pour les organisations et entreprises coopératives d'économie sociale et solidaire* – Malick Diop (Réseau des Acteurs et des Collectivités Territoriales pour l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire, Senegal) and Aminata Diop Samb (Fonds de développement et de solidarité municipale de la ville de Dakar, Senegal). The case study examines the SSE policy landscape for Dakar, considering both the national and city

levels. Despite the presence of SSE actors and political recognition of the sector in the national development plan, the paper identifies several factors that constrain the further development of the SSE sector. They include legal frameworks which do not recognize or accommodate a variety of SSE actors, the fragmented structure of government support mechanisms for SSE, weak support systems for SSE finance and capacity building, and the lack of systematic data collection. The paper proposes a set of policy recommendations for the promotion of SSE at the local level, including the establishment and development of a multistakeholder platform for policy co-construction.

132. *Guidelines for Local Governments on Policies for Social and Solidarity Economy*, based on evidence and data drawn from the city case studies, additional desktop research and interviews, were published in December. The Guidelines are structured around core themes conducive to fostering and enabling an SSE ecosystem; each chapter contains a practical guidance section, including a decision-making flowchart with questions and answers to guide respondents through the policy decision process.

- *Chapter 1. Introduction*
- *Chapter 2. Co-construction of Public Policy for SSE.* Provides guidance on how to establish and manage diverse processes and a wide range of mechanisms and approaches for the co-construction of policies and plans with SSE actors.
- *Chapter 3. Legal Frameworks for SSE.* Introduces various legal institutions that regulate and support SSE at international, supranational, national and subnational (regional/provincial and municipal) levels and explains different pathways to creating them.
- *Chapter 4. Mainstreaming SSE in Development Plans.* Explains how to incorporate SSE in development plans and programmes at different levels of government and establish SSE-specific development plans and programmes.
- *Chapter 5. Supporting Organizations for SSE.* Demonstrates different trajectories of development of supporting organizations for SSE, such as government organizations with specific mandates to support SSE, intermediary organizations engaged in co-construction of policies and their implementation, and SSE networks and associations working in the cities and neighbouring regions and provinces.
- *Chapter 6. Capacity Building for SSE.* Introduces and explains several public policies and institutions for capacity building and training services on management, governance and other functions to empower and enable SSEOs to become more efficient and sustainable in the market economy and more relevant and impactful for their communities.
- *Chapter 7. Access to Finance for SSE.* Illustrates various public policy measures to facilitate the access of SSE to both public and private finance for different stages of SSE development, including social and solidarity finance, private and public loans, state subsidies and grants, private donations and more innovative instruments such as social impact bonds and complementary currencies.
- *Chapter 8. Access to Markets for SSE.* Explains the purchase, supply and consumption process of SSE goods and services in both public procurement processes and private markets and outlines public policies to facilitate SSE's access to both types of markets.
- *Chapter 9. Awareness Raising and Advocacy for SSE.* Deals with public policies for awareness raising, communication, campaigns and advocacy

strategies to inform individuals, groups, communities or SSE organizations and empower them to participate and advocate for SSE.

- *Chapter 10. Mapping of SSE: Research and Data Collection.* Introduces key areas of research and data collection for SSE and public policies, and different approaches to promote research, collect and process data and transfer knowledge and lessons on SSE.

Communications and outreach

133. UNRISD, the Global Social Economy Forum, the UNDP ART Initiative (Territorial Partnerships for Implementing the SDGs at Local Level) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) actively promoted the research initiative during the reporting period.

134. UNRISD in collaboration with UCLG organized a session “Promoting SSE through Public Policies: Seven Case Studies and Guidelines for Local Governments” during the GSEF Global Virtual Forum on 19 October. Case study teams presented their findings, and the UNRISD research team introduced the key points of the Guidelines at the session, which drew around 100 participants.

135. The impact of the project on the policy community at the subnational level is already evident, as the Dakar case demonstrates. Based on the insights and recommendations drawn from the case study, the city government has decided to launch a process for a Local SSE Development Plan for 2021-2025. The authors of the Dakar case study will be involved in this process. The Plan aims to address the concerns and problems identified in the current SSE landscape, such as the lack of a coherent strategy and coordination across government agencies. It will also aim to strengthen participation of SSE actors in policy design, implementation and evaluation. UNRISD will support capacity development related to this initiative by delivering a session on the Guidelines during training for stakeholders in Dakar who will be engaged in implementation of the Plan. The Institute will also speak at the ceremony where the Mayor of Dakar will announce the launch of the Local SSE Development Plan for 2021-2025.

136. UNRISD will seek to raise awareness and uptake of the Guidelines further in 2021, through a series of webinars for policy decision makers and practitioners. An official launch of the Guidelines (English and Spanish versions) will be held during the Global Social Economy Forum in Mexico City in October 2021.

Start date: 2019 – End date: 2020

Total earmarked funding: USD 176,280 from the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF).

*UNRISD role: Initiation, coordination and implementation of research project
The project is coordinated by Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator). Hamish Jenkins (external consultant) is the lead author the Guidelines. In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kamení Chaddha (research intern).*

SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs

Background

137. UNRISD is a founding member of the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE, established in 2013). During the reporting

period the Institute continued to lead the UNTFSSSE research agenda and was the implementing organization of the UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs, which aims to produce evidence-based knowledge to inform the UNTFSSSE's advocacy and outreach strategies.

138. While there is a growing body of research and knowledge on SSE, attempts to systematically analyse the linkages between SSE practices and the SDGs have been limited. The SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs, an ambitious initiative launched by the UNTFSSSE, aims to fill that gap by:

- synthesizing existing knowledge, evidence and information;
- supplementing these with value-added research and analysis; and
- fostering innovative approaches and inclusive dialogue among policy makers and practitioners of SSE in both developed and developing countries.

Progress and activities

139. The reporting period saw the further improvement of the online platform of the SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs, the continuation of the research project Opportunities and Challenges of Statistics on SSE (reported on below), and the launch of a new initiative to produce an SSE Encyclopedia (reported on below).

140. The online platform of the SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs¹³ remained an important resource for the UNTFSSSE's members and observers, and a platform giving visibility and recognition to the work of practitioners and researchers in the SSE field. In 2020, the platform recorded more than 132,000 views by over 40,000 visitors. Currently 103 papers and think pieces on the relationship between SSE and the SDGs are available on the platform. An open-ended call invites submission of papers, which are then reviewed by experts in UNRISD's network of researchers and, if accepted, are added to the online Knowledge Hub.

141. During the reporting period the online Knowledge Hub was upgraded to allow navigation in French, Spanish and Portuguese. The SSE sector is sizeable in countries where these languages are spoken.

¹³ <http://unsse.org/knowledge-hub/>

Start date: 2018 – End date: 2020

Total earmarked funding: USD 59,737 from the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Social Economy and Economic Solidarity of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

UNRISD role: Implementing agency of the UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub

Partner: UN Inter-Agency Task Force on SSE (UNTFSSSE; 18 UN member organizations; 14 civil society observer organizations)

Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator) and Paul Ladd (director) are UNRISD’s liaisons with the UNTFSSSE, with the Institute’s activities for the SSE Knowledge Hub for the SDGs coordinated by Ilcheong Yi. In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kameni Chaddha (research intern).

Opportunities and Challenges of Statistics on SSE

Background

142. In spite of increasing attention from policy makers to the potential of social and solidarity economy organizations and enterprises to help address social, economic and environmental problems in alternative and integrated ways, there is a lack of statistical information about the weight, size and scope of SSEOs. As a result, it can be difficult to design evidence-informed policies to support their development, and the development of SSE more broadly. This project aims to produce an overview and analysis of the state-of-the-art of statistics on SSE, and on that basis make policy recommendations that can help policy makers and practitioners establish or improve statistics on SSE.¹⁴

143. The project will produce three research papers on SSE statistics and convene expert workshops in order to:

- provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of statistics on SSE in different parts of the world, with a focus on the methodologies and available data sets;
- explore diverse approaches to generating statistics on SSE;
- explain how statistics on SSE may be better presented; and

¹⁴ <https://knowledgehub.unsse.org/project-opportunities-and-challenges-of-statistics-on-sse/>.

- identify innovative approaches to measure the impact of SSE on sustainable development.

Progress and activities

144. Drafts of three papers were prepared and undergoing peer review by the end of the reporting period. The papers explain the current state of practices in producing SSE statistics, map international data collection on SSE, and formulate policy recommendations about producing and improving statistics on SSE:

- *Current State of Practice in Producing Statistics on Social and Solidarity Economy*: – Marie J. Bouchard (University of Quebec, Canada) and Gabriel Salathé-Beaulieu (Territoires innovants en économie sociale et solidaire, Canada)
- *Mapping of SSE International Mapping Exercises* – Coline Compère (Centre International de Recherches et d'Information sur l'Economie Publique, Sociale et Coopérative, CIRIEC, Belgium), Barbara Sak (CIRIEC, Belgium), Jérôme Schoenmaeckers (CIRIEC, Belgium)
- *Recommendations for Policy Decision Makers: Producing SSE Statistics and Future Research* – Rafael Chaves Avila (University of Valencia, Spain)

145. The papers will be published as UNTFSSSE Working Papers in 2021. Findings will be presented and discussed at an Expert Group Meeting to be held at the World Cooperative Congress of the International Cooperative Alliance on 1-3 December 2021 (originally planned in December 2020, postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic).

Start date: 2019 – End date: 2021

Total earmarked funding: USD 176,000 from Government of the Republic of Korea (represented by Statistics Korea).

UNRISD role: Implementing agency of the UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub

Partner: UN Task Force on SSE (18 UN member organizations; 14 civil society observer organizations)

The project is coordinated by Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator). Marie Bouchard contributes to the project as an external coordinator for the three research papers. In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kamení Chaddha (research intern).

SSE Encyclopedia

Background

146. The reporting period saw the launch of new project that will produce an SSE Encyclopedia, as a part of UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub's research for which UNRISD is the implementing agency. Based on the idea for the project UNRISD created an Editorial Committee composed of leading scholars in the SSE field and secured funding from the Luxembourg government.

147. Despite the growing amount of academic and policy-oriented research related to SSE which accompanies the increased recognition of SSE's transformative and sustainable potential, SSE remains a relatively new concept for policy makers in many parts of the world. There is therefore a demand for high-quality knowledge and information on the concept and related practices to guide policy makers and practitioners seeking to promote SSE and operate more effectively in the field. Yet, there has not been a source containing a comprehensive catalogue of topics related to SSE. The SSE Encyclopedia project aims to provide policy makers, practitioners and

academics with a handy but comprehensive reference tool from which they can gain general knowledge and guidance on SSE.

148. The SSE Encyclopedia will be published both online (free and open to the public) and in print.

Progress and activities

149. During the reporting period, the UNRISD research team reached out to a (gender and geographically balanced) group of leading scholars in the SSE field to invite them to join the Encyclopedia Editorial Committee. Between July and December 2020, four meetings of the Editorial Committee were held. Discussions covered the purpose and value-added of Encyclopedia, key areas and topics, structure, readership, format and number of entries, accessibility, process for commissioning entries, and timeframe for publication. Members of the Editorial Committee are:

- Barbara Sak, Managing Director, CIRIEC-International
- Caroline Shenaz Hossein, Associate Professor of Business & Society in the Department of Social Science, York University
- Cecilia Navarra, Policy Analyst, European Parliamentary Research Service, Brussels
- Denison Jayasooria, Chair of Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), Associate Fellow at the Institute of Ethnic Studies, National University of Malaysia (UKM)
- Fernanda Wanderley, Director, Socio-Economic Research Institute, Universidad Católica Boliviana “San Pablo”
- Jacques Defourny, Director, Centre for Social Economy, University of Liège
- Jean-Louis Laville, Professor at Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers à Paris (CNAM)
- Peter Utting, UNRISD Senior Research Associate, former Chair of UNTFSSSE and UNRISD Deputy Director
- Sifa Chiyoge, Regional Director and CEO of International Co-operative Alliance-Africa

150. The UNRISD research team established a partnership with Edward Elgar Publishing, which has abundant experience on publishing encyclopedias and handbooks. The SSE Encyclopedia will be published in both online (free and open to public) and printed formats. The online version will be updated regularly with new entries to reflect changes in the SSE field, subject to funding.

151. By the end of the reporting period the Editorial Committee was finalizing key topics and issues, in view of issuing an open call for expressions of interest in contributing entries on the selected topics in the first half of 2021. Proposals will be reviewed by the Editorial Committee, with a goal of selecting around 70 entries for the publication. A project website can be found on the SSE Knowledge Hub.¹⁵

Start date: 2020 – End date: 2021

Total earmarked funding: 60,000 EUR from the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

UNRISD role: Implementing agency of the UNTFSSSE Knowledge Hub

¹⁵ <https://knowledgehub.unsse.org/research-projects/project-sse-encyclopedia/>

Partner: UN Task Force on SSE (18 UN member organizations; 14 civil society observer organizations)

The project on SSE Encyclopedia is coordinated by Ilcheong Yi. In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kamení Chaddha (research intern).

Protecting Vulnerable Urban Groups in Contentious Times: The Role of SSE

Background

152. UNRISD was a partner in this project, led by the University of Geneva, for which research was initiated in 2018 and extended into 2020. The work examined how SSE can effectively contribute to building solidarity, protecting unemployed native-born citizens, refugees and migrants, and integrating them into local communities and labour markets. It also considered the potential, challenges and tensions of doing so in contexts of austerity and welfare retrenchment, growing xenophobia and populist politics. Three medium-sized cities located in diverse socioeconomic and political contexts—Bergamo (Italy), Geneva (Switzerland) and Heraklion (Greece)—were the sites of the field research. The research aimed to inform policy makers and practitioners seeking innovative and inclusive policies for refugees and migrants in urban settings and to promote social justice and/or social and solidarity-based economic practices.

Progress and activities

Research papers and synthesis report

153. Three city-level research papers were finalized, feeding into the synthesis report submitted to the funder, the Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS), in fulfilment of the project outputs.

- *Social and Solidarity Economy, Barriers to Growth and the Need for Building a Common Understanding: A Case Study from Greece* – Maria Mexi and Maria Kouis
- *Geneva: Social and Solidarity Economy, Urban Communities and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups* – Victor Sanchez-Mazas
- *Social and Solidarity Economy, Urban Communities and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups: Final Report, Italy (Bergamo)* – Chiara Demaldè with the supervision of Francesca Forno and Katia Pilati

154. The synthesis report, *Social and Solidarity Economy, Urban Communities and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups*, is available on the SNIS website.¹⁶ It explains the field research processes in the three cities, presents the qualitative and quantitative data gathered from the research, and explores the wider implications of their key findings.

UNRISD Research and Policy Brief

155. *Social and Solidarity Economy for the Integration of Migrants and Refugees: Experience from Three European Cities* (UNRISD Research and Policy Brief No. 31) was published in October. The Brief synthesizes the policy-relevant lessons drawn from the research and project discussions. It suggests a number of key institutions and policies to

¹⁶ <https://snis.ch/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Working-Paper.pdf>

maximize the capacity of SSE to serve refugees and migrants within and beyond local areas:

- legally recognizing SSEOs as equal partners in public dialogues and facilitating the co-production of policies;
- encouraging the efforts of SSEOs to meet emerging demands and needs;
- helping to raise awareness about the role and activities of SSEOs in contributing to social cohesion and the integration of vulnerable groups of people, in particular in the context of increased arrivals of migrants and refugees;
- supporting the creation of SSEOs and networking between them, in particular those organized by vulnerable people themselves, including refugees and migrants;
- providing effective technical assistance to SSEOs, including capacity development for SSEO workers delivering various services;
- supporting SSEOs' access to markets and financial resources to create resilient local economic circuits, and ensuring that the economic value created stays in the local area;
- harmonizing activities of public, private and SSEO actors to avoid programme gaps and duplication; and
- creating policy space where SSEOs actively participate in policy-making processes.

156. Opportunities for publication of the research papers (special journal issue or edited volume) may be explored in 2021.

Start date: 2018 – End date: 2020

Total earmarked funding: CHF 54,000 from the Swiss Network for International Studies via the University of Geneva, plus additional support from UNRISD institutional funds

UNRISD role: Member of a research consortium. Producing a background paper (on the city of Geneva), contributing to the synthesis report, producing a policy brief, and organizing a public outreach event.

Partners: The project consortium is composed of Institute of Citizenship Studies (InCite), University of Geneva (represented by Marco Giugni); University of Lausanne (represented by Florence Passy); Center for Research and Studies, University of Crete (represented by Maria Kousis); Department of Sociology and Social Research, University of Trento (represented by Francesca Formo); and UNRISD (represented by Ilcheong Yi).

UNRISD's contribution to the project was coordinated by Ilcheong Yi (senior research coordinator) and Maria Mexi (visiting Fellow). In 2020, assistance was provided by Samuel Brülisauer (research analyst) and Kameni Chaddha (research intern).

Climate Justice

157. The work on climate justice aims to provide evidence, analysis and ideas for policies and practices that effectively tackle climate and environmental injustices and lead to greater sustainability and equality. To this end, it recognizes climate and environmental change as political and rights issues that need to be assessed and addressed in terms of their distributive and procedural justice outcomes. UNRISD

work in this area thus aims to inform and promote policies that decarbonize the economy and protect people from the unavoidable impacts of climate change while addressing existing inequalities and questions of justice.

Dunja Krause (research officer) is leading the work in this area, with funding from the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung (with support from German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development).

Just Transition Research Collaborative (Phase III)

158. Just Transition—the idea that justice and equity must form an integral part of the transition towards a low-carbon world—is increasingly being mobilized both to counter the idea that protecting the environment and protecting jobs are incompatible, and to broaden the conversation to include justice-related issues such as the kinds of jobs and societies we envision for the future. The Just Transition Research Collaborative (JTRC) brings together experts from academia and civil society to collectively map and analyse different understandings and narratives of just transition that underpin the concept’s growing popularity and uptake (see paragraphs 155-169 in the 2019 Progress Report).

159. In 2020, the project’s theme was “Working Towards Transformative Change and Climate Justice for All”. Activities were focused on strengthening online collaboration to enhance the use and uptake of JTRC resources while simultaneously addressing new initiatives and narratives of Just Transition. In addition to strengthening informal channels of engagement and collaboration among the group, a series of six webinars and five new think pieces for the online forum made up the core of the activities and led to broadened participation and engagement. The project suffered some delays and reduced opportunities for outreach and communications due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, the research and policy brief synthesizing key findings of the work in 2020 is being prepared for publication and launch in early 2021.

Enhanced online collaboration

160. Enhancing JTRC online collaboration was a key objective of our work in 2020. We established a baseline by sending out an engagement survey to the JTRC mailing list and all people who have previously contributed to the activities of the JTRC such as the first two workshops and reports, the online forum as well as the Pluto Press volume (see paragraphs 155-169 in the 2019 Progress Report). In a next step, we started organizing informal online meetings (six in total between June and December) in order to facilitate exchange of ideas and broaden the base of collaborators. The meetings were attended by eight to 25 people (15 on average), and followed up by a collation of information that was shared and the introduction of additional tools for engagement, such as a padlet page to organize ideas for webinar topics and a Zotero group to share research articles. Initially the meetings had more of a general networking and information character rather than that of a continued discussion and exchange. Once the webinar series had started, however, more of a core group of webinar contributors had formed and started to reflect on key themes and research issues that need to be addressed in the future.

Webinar Series

161. Based on the work conducted by the JTRC so far, in particular the publication of two policy reports in 2018 and 2019, a series of webinars was conceptualized and conducted with the aim of expanding and deepening the discussion of progressive approaches to Just Transition and advancing justice in low-carbon transitions.

162. Six webinar sessions were held between 6 October to 9 December.

163. **Framings and design politics of just transitions** (6 October): In the kick-off session, the JTRC introduced and discussed different framings and the design politics of just transitions that shape current debates on low-carbon development and recovery from Covid. The session brought together research on the role of labour and working people in demanding a just transition with a discussion of specific policy responses and proposals based on examples from Latin America.

164. Speakers:

- Edouard Morena, Lecturer in French Studies and International Politics, University of London Institute in Paris
- Damian White, Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies, Rhode Island School of Design
- Ana Belén Sánchez, ILO Regional Green Jobs Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Discussant: Nora Räthzel, Professor of Sociology, Umeå University
- Moderator: Dunja Krause, Research Officer, UNRISD

165. The session was attended by 108 people based in 35 countries, and viewed 326 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

166. **Just transition as a worker movement in global North and South** (14 October): As a grounded concept that originated in the North American labour movement, just transition places the well-being and livelihoods of workers and communities at the heart of transitions to sustainability and low-carbon futures. The second webinar examined how the spread of the concept to the international climate policy arena and around the world has influenced the role of workers in just transition efforts. It highlighted the role of both formal and informal workers and their organizations, and explored the differences that shape just transition as a worker movement in the global North and South.

167. Speakers:

- Jenny Patient, PhD Student, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, University of Sheffield
- Woodrajh (Woody) Aroun, former Education and Parliamentary Officer of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA)
- Susanita Tesiorna, President, Alliance of Workers in the Informal Economy/Sector (ALLWIES) and Council Member of National Anti-Poverty Commission - Workers in the Informal Sector Council
- Discussant: David Uzzell, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Psychology at the University of Surrey
- Moderator: Jo Cutter, Lecturer in Work and Employment Relations, Leeds University Business School

168. The session was attended by 98 people based in 29 countries, and viewed 257 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

169. **Gender and just transitions** (27 October): The third webinar explored the interlinkages between gender justice and just transition. It looked at how lived

experiences differ for women in the male-dominated industries that receive much of the attention in current just transition debates, and explored what a gender just transition would look like. Drawing on examples from the US, Europe and Africa, the session delved into a debate about what kinds of just transitions hold the potential to achieve gender justice, and why changing the value of different kinds of work might be necessary in order to achieve low-carbon sustainable development.

170. Speakers:

- Vivian Price, California State University at Dominguez Hills
- Stefania Barca, Center for Social Studies, University of Coimbra
- Ndivile Mokoena, genderCC South Africa
- Dipti Bhatnagar, Climate Justice & Energy Program Co-Coordinator Friends of the Earth International, Justiça Ambiental Mozambique
- Moderator: Sarah Cook, Director, Institute for Global Development, UNSW Sydney

171. The session was attended by 180 people based in 34 countries, and viewed 292 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

172. **Financing just transitions** (10 November): The fourth webinar looked at how different funding mechanisms operate, what criteria are being used to select projects and allocate funds, and what tensions can arise between different stakeholders when questions of finance for just transitions are discussed. The session introduced specific examples from Australia (closure of a power station) and Europe (the EU Just Transition Fund) and then discussed how the Green Climate Fund (the largest multilateral climate fund) can more effectively channel just transition funding to developing countries. The discussion highlighted how climate finance could be used to advance social justice and identified key entry points in financing debates to make sure that low-carbon transitions are just transitions.

173. Speakers:

- Darryn Snell, Associate Professor, School of Management, RMIT University
- Nora Schüttpelz, Policy Advisor to Martina Michels, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the European United Left-Nordic Green Left
- Jessica Omukuti, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Interdisciplinary Global Development Centre at University of York
- Discussant: Sanna Markkanen, Research Associate, Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership
- Moderator: Edouard Morena, Lecturer in French and International Politics, University of London Institute in Paris (ULIP)

174. The session was attended by 79 people based in 31 countries, and viewed 158 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

175. **Community-based action for just transitions** (24 November): Local movements and community organizations are key players in the transition to low-carbon societies. A growing number of frontline groups are mobilizing just transition language and framings to support their fight against racial, gender and social injustices within their communities. The fifth webinar brought together researchers and grassroots activists

to discuss the role of community-based efforts in promoting and implementing just transitions and bringing about transformative change at the national and international levels.

176. Speakers:

- Lizeth Chacon, Executive Director, Colorado People's Alliance (COPA)
- Gerald Taylor Aiken, Research Associate, Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER)
- Ankit Kumar, Lecturer, Department of Geography, University of Sheffield
- Moderator: Edouard Morena, Lecturer in French and International Politics, University of London Institute in Paris (ULIP)

177. The session was attended by 91 people based in 31 countries, and viewed 231 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

178. **Just transitions, power and politics** (9 December): The final session of the webinar series focused on power and politics, and unpacked what has happened to just transitions in the five years since the Paris Agreement was adopted. The session explored whether and how narratives of just transition have changed over time, in terms of their ambitions, inclusiveness and the issues they address. Looking at more recent developments such as the Covid-19 pandemic, panelists reflected on emerging discussions around the value of different kinds of work and the potential for using moments of crisis and change as an opportunity to put economies on a different, fairer, low-carbon path.

179. Speakers:

- Anabella Rosemberg, International Programme Director, Greenpeace International
- Dinga Sikwebu, South African labour activist and researcher, National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (NUMSA)
- Hadrian Mertins-Kirkwood, Senior Researcher, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
- Mijin Cha, Assistant Professor, Urban and Environmental Policy, Occidental College
- Moderator: Dimitris Stevis, Professor of Politics, Colorado State University

180. The session was attended by 127 people based in 34 countries, and viewed 285 times on YouTube (as of 18 December).

181. An UNRISD Research and Policy Brief synthesizing findings of the webinar discussions was prepared for publication and launch in early 2021.

Online Forum

182. Based on the interests indicated in the engagement survey as well as the discussions during informal meetings, we curated a new set of think pieces for the JTRC online forum covering a range of perspectives and world regions. Two were posted during the reporting period:

- *Indigenous views on Just Transition in Northern Patagonia* – Pablo Aránguiz Mesías

- *The pandemic and the planetary crisis* – John Barry

183. Three further pieces were planned for publication in early 2021:

- *Informal coal mining: A key just transition challenge in India* – Sandeep Pai and Savannah Carr-Wilson
- *When Covid meets climate injustice: Phasing out jeepneys and driving unemployment in the Philippines* – Avril de Torres
- *Is the Green Climate Fund doing enough to support just transitions in developing countries* – Jessica Omukuti

Communications and Outreach

184. The project used a range of communications and outreach channels during the reporting period. Information on the project was added to the UNRISD website and communicated through regular UNRISD newsletters as well as social media.

185. Twitter was an important channel for the promotion of the webinar series. In the period from 28 September to 10 December, 51 tweets and responses were sent from the JTRC Twitter account, generating a total of 99,689 impressions, 259 retweets and 302 likes and pushing a steady increase of followers to over 750 at the time of reporting. In addition to the JTRC account, the UNRISD Twitter account was used both for retweets and original tweets promoting the webinars. The sessions were also promoted via UNRISD email memos, LinkedIn and Facebook posts as well as through targeted emails to JTRC collaborators and relevant mailing lists.

186. JTRC work was also presented at a number of outreach events:

- We co-organized an HLPF SDG Learning, Training and Practice session on Sustainable and Just Economies: Lessons Learned from the Covid 19 Crisis and Enabling Factors for the SDGs. Other partners for the event were the ILO Green Jobs Programme, the International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Women’s Major Group (WGM), World Benchmarking Alliance, UN Global Compact, and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The training was attended by over 300 people on zoom and livestreamed via YouTube
- Video presentation and participation in a seminar of the German UN Association (in German), aimed at German professionals, civil society and interested public¹⁷
- Presentation in “Toxic Expertise Webinar” hosted by University of Warwick¹⁸
- Input to “Gender and Just Transition Expert Workshop” hosted by University of New South Wales
- Discussant input to GI-ESCR and Misereor Online Seminar “Local struggles for housing rights in the context of climate change, urbanization and environmental degradation” (based on the JTRC 2019 report)¹⁹

187. In addition to the workshops and seminars above, we successfully liaised with UNFCCC and were invited to present work at the “Informal event of the forum on

¹⁷ <https://nachhaltig-entwickeln.dgyn.de/agenda-2030/ziele-fuer-nachhaltige-entwicklung/sdg-online-seminar-gerechte-nachhaltigkeit-die-un-ziele-fuer-nachhaltige-entwicklung-wir/#c23092>

¹⁸ <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/sociology/research/currentresearch/toxicexpertise/eventsandconferences>

¹⁹ [Climate Justice from Below—Local Struggles for Just Transition\(s\)](#)

the impacts of the implementation of response measures” that was part of the 2020 Climate Dialogues and took place on 30 November. Following the event, we were also invited to observe the “Informal consultations by the SB [Subsidiary Body] Chairs on the workplan of the forum on the impacts of the implementation of response measures” on 1 December.

188. Due to some delays and the reduced number of outreach opportunities due to the pandemic, communications and outreach work for the project will continue in 2021. This will also allow us to further explore and build on the newly established contacts and networks and ensure continuity between the 2020 and 2021 JTRC projects.

Start date: April 2020 – End date: December 2020

UNRISD role: Coordination and convening of research

Partner: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung

Total amount of earmarked funding: EUR 49,313 from Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung with support from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The project was coordinated by Dunja Krause (research officer). In 2020, assistance was provided by Akiko Sasaki (visiting research fellow). Special technical support for the webinar series was provided by Sergio Sandoval (communications and outreach unit).

Transformative Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Cities

Background

189. The effects of climate change on coastal cities call for rapid action to both reduce the extent of impacts and prepare for unavoidable ones. This project used the case studies of Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam and Jakarta, Indonesia to explore the compounding risks of rapid and partly informal urbanization, land subsidence and water-related risks such as urban flooding, sea level rise or health risks, in order to enhance the understanding of transformative adaptation to climate change in coastal cities and on that basis promote policy change to reduce disaster risk and vulnerability of local populations.

Activities and Outputs

190. Building on the findings of the project’s first phase (May-December 2019) that resulted in three discussion documents released in time for COP25, in 2020 the second phase of the project focused on consulting the findings with experts and decision makers in the case study cities in order to assess different stakeholders’ perspectives on barriers and opportunities for justice-centred, transformative adaptation. While the project was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and experienced some delays due to the uncertainty around the arrangement of face-to-face meetings, we managed to reach a good number of relevant stakeholders and consult them through a mix of bilateral conversations and exchanges of information, as well as through the organization of a larger virtual consultation meeting in the case of Jakarta. As a result the project showcased the relevance of adopting an approach to transformative adaptation that is centred on social justice and identified both entry points and challenges in the context of each case study city.

Stakeholder engagement process

191. The stakeholder engagement process was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic as we had envisaged for the local research teams to arrange bilateral, face-to-face meetings in order to establish an atmosphere of trust and openness before inviting local stakeholders' feedback on key points of the respective research papers and on questions of barriers and opportunities for transformative adaptation in the case study context. As this was not possible, we first consulted the plans for the consultations with RLS and then worked with the research teams to produce short versions of their studies and come up with key questions to be addressed during the consultation process. Both teams reached out to a range of local experts and stakeholders and made arrangements for collecting feedback.

192. In the case of Ho Chi Minh City, the researchers translated a short version of their study into Vietnamese and prepared a feedback survey to give people the opportunity to provide their feedback in writing. They faced some difficulties in hearing back from all the experts they contacted and spend a lot of time on follow ups via phone in order to collect the feedback. In the case of Jakarta, the researchers already had stronger ties to relevant experts and stakeholders so that they managed to pursue a two-tiered strategy of consultation and advocacy work to promote the concept of transformative adaptation. In a first step of advocacy work, they introduced the concept of transformative adaptation and key findings of their work in a number of webinar presentations and virtual workshops to which they were invited as resource persons. In a second step, they organized a more specific consultation of their work and discussion of transformative adaptation by conducting a virtual workshop which was followed up by intensive bilateral discussions and individual consultations with policy makers at national and subnational levels.

Publication of Research Papers and Policy Briefs

193. Following the stakeholder engagement process, research teams reviewed the analysis that was published as had been presented in the discussion documents in 2019, and incorporated key findings of the consultation into the final draft papers, which were subsequently reviewed and published. In parallel, the synthesis paper was substantially revised and updated in order to strengthen the analysis of transformative adaptation across the pillars of distributive, procedural and spatial justice and to provide an assessment of specific policy implications and recommendations to improve adaptation decision-making at different levels of governance.

194. The results were published in the following three research papers:

- *Transformative adaptation and social justice in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam* - Huynh Thi Phuong Linh and Nguyen Hong Quan (December 2020)
- *Adaptation to Climate Change: Decision Making and Opportunities for Transformation in Jakarta, Indonesia* - Hendricus Andy Simarmata and Gusti Ayu Ketut Surtiari (December 2020)
- *Transformative Adaptation to Climate Change and Informal Settlements in Coastal Cities. Entry Points for Jakarta and Ho Chi Minh City* - Minh Tran and Dunja Krause (December 2020)

195. Key findings of each of the case study papers were condensed and synthesized into policy briefs, which will be published in early 2021 in order to strengthen outreach and communicate findings beyond academia. In addition, three think pieces illustrating the importance of social justice in adaptation in other coastal cities and regions were curated and prepared for publication in early 2021:

- *Adaptation and Social Justice in Lagos, Nigeria* – Ibidun Adelekan
- *Waste Management and Adaptation in Coastal Cities* – Diane Archer
- *Transformation and Adaptation in Mongla, Bangladesh* – Feisal Rahman and Laura Kuhl

Communications and Outreach

196. Effective outreach and communications work is crucial in order to enhance both knowledge and policy acceptance of transformative adaptation. The project targets a number of different audiences and produces a range of knowledge outputs in order to reach them. In addition to the research papers, policy briefs and think pieces, we produced two “teaser” videos that highlight the need to bring social justice into coastal city adaptation and showcase how upgrading and resettlement can be done in ways that reduce the adverse impacts on people’s livelihoods. The videos are meant to provide short, visually appealing overviews of some of the key points discussed in the research papers and invite viewers to consult the written outputs. The videos can be both shared and promoted through social media and screened as part of events.

197. While the project delay means that much of the communication and outreach work for the project will continue well into 2021, efforts were made to already lay the foundations for effective dissemination of findings.

- In October 2020, the project was featured prominently in an invited speech at the 5th Biennale International Conference on Indonesian Architecture and Planning that introduced the concept of transformative adaptation to an audience of researchers and planning professionals.

198. As part of the engagement with international experts, a couple of additional opportunities arose:

- The case study papers will be featured in a review article on transformational adaptation to climate change in coastal cities that is due to be published in the *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* (Volume 46, Autumn 2021).
- UNRISD was invited to contribute to the 7th Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum organized by the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network and the Ministry of Environment of the Government of Japan. The forum will focus on “Enabling Resilience for All: The Critical Decade to Scale Up Action” and take place virtually on 8-12 March 2021.

199. The potential for wider circulation of the three research papers was boosted by their selection to be featured on PreventionWeb, the global knowledge sharing platform on disaster risk reduction managed by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and with an audience including specialists working at local, country and regional levels, as well as teachers and students, citizens and journalists.

Start date: April 2020 – End date: December 2020

UNRISD role: Initiation, organization and coordination of research.

Total amount of earmarked funding: EUR 37,048 from the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung with support from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The project was coordinated by Dunja Krause (research officer).

Programme Development and Future Directions

200. 2020 marked the final year of the UNRISD programme on Social Dimensions of Sustainable Development in its current form. As UNRISD embarks on a new Institutional Strategy 2021-2025, the two main streams of work under the programme that have been growing over the past years will continue as two stand-alone programmes. The work on social and solidarity economy (SSE) and sustainability metrics will be continued in the new programme on Alternative Economies for Transformation, while the work on climate justice will be continued in the new Environmental and Climate Justice Programme. These changes will retain the core focus areas of research analysis while allowing for clearer branding and messaging at the programme level. In view of the new institutional strategy, programme descriptions and key research areas for the new programmes were developed and consulted with stakeholders in 2020. For the area of climate justice, initial short concept notes and ideas were also consulted with prospective new partners and potential donors.

Gender and Development

201. Gender inequality, discrimination and violence affect all countries around the world and are major obstacles to equitable, inclusive and sustainable development. Despite progress, the problems are pervasive and, in many contexts, reversals in previous gains are occurring, while advances in emerging areas such as equal rights for LGBTQI+ people are slow to consolidate. For these reasons, the Gender and Development programme focuses on the structures and the relations that underpin gendered outcomes, including the linkages between production and social reproduction, between economic and social policies, and between gender-related movements and state institutions.

202. Actions continued in 2020 in view of rebuilding capacity in the Gender and Development programme, with a number of milestones of note.

203. The team of gender experts from Middlesex University completed the scoping study to identify cutting-edge and policy-relevant research themes around which to frame and build a new gender equality programme at UNRISD. The final report (and points of clarification) were received in April. It explores how gender research/policy/practice is currently “done”, how gender(ed) change is measured, and what’s hot and what’s not in gender and development research—in order to allow UNRISD to position itself in an increasingly mainstream field. Within this the report also explores who is already working on which topics, and who is funding what.

204. Following a competitive recruitment process, Francisco Cos-Montiel joined UNRISD in November to lead the programme. His initial priority is to broker new research partnerships and raise funding that will ensure the programme’s sustainability.

205. In addition to the steps taken in view of launching the new programme, the institutional policy of mainstreaming gender across all research activities and communication and outreach, and the work of the Institute’s gender focal point, were maintained. The research project on Strengthening LGBTQI+ Voices in Politics (“VoiceIt”), in which UNRISD is a partner, concluded its first full year with fieldwork and a set of publications, including an overarching policy report for which UNRISD carried out background research and writing. The Institute took gender parity into

account in the planning and implementation of all its activities, and women comprised 47% of its research network and 52% of contributors to research outputs during the reporting period.

206. UNRISD Director Paul Ladd continued as a member of the International Gender Champions, a network of senior leaders working to advance gender equality in the executive management of their institutions and in their programmatic work through concrete and measurable commitments. UNRISD focal points also continued to participate in quarterly International Gender Champion meetings, and in the periodic consultations of the UN LGBTI/SOGIESC (for which UNRISD submitted a contribution to the Programmatic Summary for 2020). UNRISD also joined the new UN Task Team set up to develop a strategy and guidance on preventing discrimination and violence against LGBTIQ+ people in the organization's programmatic work and internally, and participated in the first meeting in December.

Francisco Cos-Montiel joined the Institute in November to lead the new Gender Justice and Development programme. Prior to that, Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) was the focal point for UNRISD's work in the area of gender and development, with support from Maggie Carter (research analyst).

Voicelt: Strengthening LGBTIQ+ Voices in Politics

Background

207. UNRISD is part of an integrated research-action project that aims to enhance the inclusion of LGBTIQ+ people's voices, rights and concerns in political decision-making processes in Cyprus, Greece and Italy. The project, which began in 2019 and will run until 2022, is funded by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers via the 2018 Rights, Equality and Citizenship Work Programme (see Progress Report 2019 197-204).

208. UNRISD has an advisory role, bringing to the project its long-standing expertise on gender, inequality, political decision making and participation, and social and political inclusion. In engaging with the project UNRISD has sought to forge links to global debates on LGBTIQ+ rights and leaving no one behind in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, and draw lessons for the global South. UNRISD communications expertise has also supported project partners in outreach and impact activities.

Outputs and Activities

209. During the reporting year, a survey was carried out in the three countries to gather data on perceptions of LGBTIQ+ rights, potential obstacles faced by LGBTIQ+ individuals with minority ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and the needs for policy reform. The survey engaged responses from LGBTIQ+ individuals, state and government officials, representatives of political institutions, and the general public in each of the three countries. The findings from the surveys were synthesized into three national reports and one overarching policy report, for which UNRISD conducted background research and drafted inputs. The reports were then translated into the national languages of the three countries and widely disseminated.

Written outputs

- *Strengthening LGBTIQ+'s Voice in Politics: Policy Report (July 2020)*

- *Strengthening LGBTQI+’s Voice in Politics: National Report – Cyprus* (June 2020)
- *Strengthening LGBTQI+’s Voice in Politics: National Report – Greece* (June 2020)
- *Strengthening LGBTQI+’s Voice in Politics: National Report – Italy* (June 2020)
- *Rights Through Representation: How UNRISD Research is Contributing to LGBTQI+ Inclusion in Politics* – Maggie Carter (Blog, December 2020)

Activities

- **VoiceIt Transnational Exchange Workshop, 6 November (online):** This workshop brought together team members from each of the three project countries and the UNRISD project team (Katja Hujo and Maggie Carter), as well as Priority Working Group members and invited experts to exchange research results and the findings of the online survey in each country, exchange good practices on promoting LGBTQI+ rights between the partner countries, and discuss common challenges and solutions with regards to the drafting of National Action Plans and developing joint actions. UNRISD team members made a presentation on the role of the United Nations in achieving rights and justice for LGBTQI+ persons.
- **VoiceIt Interim Project Steering Committee Meeting, 12-13 November (online):** This meeting brought together project leaders from the three country teams and UNRISD (Maggie Carter) to discuss and plan for the next phase of the project, namely the development and delivery of Rights Information and Empowerment Seminars, which will take place in 2021.

Intermediate findings and policy recommendations

210. Research reveals that while progress has been made in terms of expansion of rights for LGBTQI+ people in the three countries, and public opinion is shifting accordingly, there remain gaps in terms of perceptions of LGBTQI+ people and knowledge of their rights and legal protections. Drawing on these findings, country partners will develop action plans to tackle the priorities identified in each country. The proposed actions will be complemented by an LGBTQI+ rights information and empowerment programme, as well as other initiatives to raise awareness and foster exchange of experiences and lessons learned.

211. The findings highlight the need for:

- education and training around LGBTQI+ rights, especially from a young age;
- awareness raising, which should engage key actors across the political spectrum and the general public, in order to influence public opinion;
- further investing in LGBTQI+ rights and protections, for example to providing support for organizations working for the benefit of LGBTQI+ individuals; and
- undertaking more research into LGBTQI+ rights and inclusion in national contexts.

Start date: 2019 – End date: 2022

Total amount of earmarked funding: EUR 33,865 from the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers via the 2018 Rights, Equality and Citizenship Work Programme.

UNRISD role: advisory; background research; communications and outreach
Partners: Kentro Merimnas Oikogeneias Kai Paidiou-KMOP (Social Action and Innovation Centre): Athens, Greece; Accept-Lesbians, Omofylofiloi, Amfisexoualikoï, Trans (Loat) Kypros (AcceptCY): Lefkosia, Cyprus; Anziani E Non Solo Societa Cooperativa Sociale: Carpi, Italy
Katja Hujo (senior research coordinator) and Maggie Carter (research analyst) are coordinating the work on VoiceIt: Strengthening LGBTQI+ Voices in Politics.

Programme Development and Future Directions

212. 2020 marked the final year of the UNRISD programme on Gender and Development in its current form. As a result of a scoping study and consultations undertaken by UNRISD in 2020, and as the Institute anticipates the inception of its Institutional Strategy for 2021-2025, the programme has been re-conceptualized and re-named. Work will henceforth be carried out under the programme title Gender Justice and Development.

213. Francisco Cos-Montiel joined UNRISD at the beginning of November to initiate the new programme. His experience includes past positions at the National Institute for Women and the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs in Mexico, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Canada, and two UN agencies: UN Women in Bangkok and United Nations University in Barcelona.

214. UNRISD announced its new Gender Justice and Development research programme in 2020, the same year the global community marks a historic anniversary: the 4th World Conference on Women. In 1995 no one could have foreseen that, 25 years later, humankind would be in the midst of a global pandemic that has shone a stark light on longstanding fractures and inequalities across societies, including gender inequality. It has pushed to the fore some very basic questions, which are still as relevant as ever: who works on what, who cares for whom and in exchange for what, and how does culture determine the roles, relations, aspirations, hopes, desires and satisfaction of human beings. Advances towards a more equal distribution of labour, care, power and well-being between men and women have been made in the past, but the pandemic has shown us that these gender equality gains that we perhaps had taken for granted can be lost very quickly.

215. UNRISD's new gender research programme aims to deepen understanding of the structural causes of these issues, and to propose political and policy options to UN member states and the development community more generally. The programme name reflects a focus on the concept of gender justice, which includes the question of redress for past injustices within the current discussions of empowerment. A recognition that the lives of men and women are intersected by other inequalities, such as class, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and age, among others, will guide work undertaken in the programme.

216. A portfolio of research and activities will be developed within the programme and under the new Institutional Strategy 2021-2025. Three themes will be prioritized initially in project development and fundraising: (i) feminist perspectives on climate change; (ii) gender, technologies and digital economies; and (iii) backlash against women's rights and equality. These key themes provide the context and outlines for the programme, making it contemporary and global in its framing, and creating the space and flexibility for project development to take different directions. The

programme will identify, analyse and seek to propose solutions to emerging challenges in these areas that could not have been imagined when we celebrated the Beijing Platform for Action. Yet the issues to be explored are more relevant than ever for the global project of gender equality.

INTEGRATING KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SDGs: NEW WORK PROGRAMME AND OFFICE IN BONN

Background

217. As a research institute which doesn't have an explicit capacity development or training mandate, one of the ways UNRISD seeks to strengthen evidence-based implementation of the SDGs is through collaboration with other entities that do have this mandate, in order to foster the uptake and use of research findings and analysis in training and capacity development.

218. With support from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the German Federal Foreign Office, UNRISD established its Bonn office in February 2020 to work on integration of knowledge and capacity development for the SDGs. With this new programme, UNRISD aims to create collaborations and strengthen research uptake linkages to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The new office is strategically placed, as Bonn has become the centre for the UN's climate and sustainability efforts—hosting over 20 UN organizations working around these issues.

219. The Bonn Programme focuses on three main areas in its work with partner organizations: (i) training and capacity building for an integrated approach on the social dimensions of sustainable development; (ii) joint research and capacity-development strategies, through identifying and mapping relevant knowledge gaps and implementing corresponding research activities; and (iii) strengthening evidence-based SDG implementation and research uptake by UN and development partners.

Progress and Activities

220. Specific activities and outputs were designed and implemented during the reporting period to fulfil the programme's three objectives. Underlying the progress made by the programme was a strong focus on networking and outreach. The majority of other activities involved the provision of expertise around the social dimensions of sustainable development via different channels, whether through inputs for training courses, provision of lecturers / resource persons, webinar contributions, or expert advice. A number of communications activities and outputs were also notable.

Office launch

221. The new programme and UNRISD office were officially launched at an event hosted at the Altes Rathaus in Bonn by the city's Mayor and the Liaison Office of the Federal Foreign Office to the UN Campus Bonn, on 6 February.

An integrated approach on the social dimensions of sustainable development

222. Despite the restrictions on physical meetings in 2020, the programme was successful in establishing a strong network with Bonn-based institutions and in creating several partnerships for capacity building and research uptake, as indicated for example by networking and relationship-building activities undertaken; and contribution to training courses, webinars and workshops (including participation as speakers). By disseminating research-derived products, the programme also served to make research insights more accessible to a wider audience.

223. Within the first 10 months of operations, the Programme delivered several engagements in the area of social development and contributed to the discussion at the HLPF. Contributions were provided to training courses of the UN System Staff College, International Training Centre of the ILO, the Peace and Development Foundation, and the German Diplomatic Academy, by sharing UNRISD's research results with course participants and discussing their uptake.

224. The range of activities during the reporting period included the following.

- Delivered a keynote presentation at an ITC-ILO training course entitled *Managing a Just Transition to Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies*.
- Contributed expertise on Inequality during the “Digitainable Thinkathon – Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence for Sustainable Development” organized by the Innovation Campus Bonn of Bonn University in April.
- Presented a session to young economists at a lecture series organized by Women in Economics Initiative (WiE) in partnership with the Economics Student Association (Fachschaft VWL) at the University of Bonn in November.
- Conveyed research results and policy implications on the prevention of sexual violence to young foreign diplomats at *Training for International Diplomats* by the German Federal Foreign Office in October
- Presented during a discussion on *Gender and Social Justice/ International politics* as a part of *International Futures Online Course* at *Training for International Diplomats* by the German Federal Foreign Office in November.
- Provided input on just transitions for German professionals, civil society and the general public during an online seminar on the SDGs organized by the German UN Association.
- Hosted a “Social Networking Session” on *Integrated Policies for Environmental Action and Social Protection* during the *Virtual UN Summer Academy 2020* organized by the UN System Staff College in August.
- Presented in a panel discussion on “Building back better post Covid-19” during the *Virtual UN Summer Academy 2020* organized by the UN System Staff College in August.
- Contributed to a webinar on *Trends in Climate Change Vulnerability and Social Protection* during the *UNU Summer Academy on World Risk and Adaptation Futures–Social Protection* in September.

225. UNRISD Bonn contributed to a joint communication regarding green recovery and Covid-19: *Ten Priority Options for a Just, Green and Transformative Recovery*, by

Partners for Inclusive Green Economy, launched on World Environment Day (5 June 2020). It is a call for recovery efforts that take account of the interdependencies between human and environmental health, and aim to build resilience to even more profound risks on the horizon—biodiversity loss, widening inequality and climate change—while recognizing that transformative change tackling their root causes will be the only just and sustainable long-term solution.

226. Isabell Kempf and Dunja Krause authored a post in the UNRISD Covid blog series: *We Need a Green and Just Transformation to Recover from Covid-19*.

Joint research and capacity development initiatives

227. A number of initiatives got under way in 2020 with partners in Bonn in view of undertaking joint research with the aim of generating knowledge for capacity-development.

228. As a part of the consultation process for UNRISD’s new strategy, the Bonn Programme organized a meeting with its Bonn-based partners to discuss the Institute’s strategic priorities for 2021-2025, directions for future research and how UNRISD’s Bonn Office can catalyse new collaborations and further enhance synergies between research and capacity building. Participants included representatives of German government Ministries, the Government of North Rhine Westphalia, United Nations agencies, the Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research, think tanks as well as academia and the DAAD (the German Academic Exchange Service). Key takeaways from the consultation will inform the UNRISD Institutional Strategy 2021-2025, as well as the Bonn Office’s programme of work for 2021. As a result of the consultation, a project proposal was developed for a network on a new eco social contract to connect policy makers, researchers and activists across the globe. This has been met with significant interest from different partners. A report was prepared on the consultation, capturing the discussion and knowledge gaps mentioned by partners, and mentioning a joint research-and capacity building strategy with the different Bonn based partners.

229. The Bonn Programme entered into a partnership for a joint project proposal with the Bonn Alliance for Sustainability Research, among other activities.

- In collaboration with the Bonn Alliance and CIDOB (the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, a Spanish think-tank), submitted proposal to Volkswagen Stiftung under the programme “Challenges for Europe” in June 2020.
- Submitted expression of interest to Robert Bosch Stiftung to apply for its support programme on “Reducing Inequalities Through Intersectional Practice” in August 2020.
- Submitted proposal to UN-REDD Programme (United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) for research on a social and equality framework in October 2020.

230. A programme is also under discussion with DAAD (the German Academic Exchange Service) to engage researchers from the Global South in joint work with UNRISD.

Enhancing research uptake by UN and development partners

Financial Crises, Poverty and Environmental Sustainability in the Context of the SDGs

231. One of the programme's first initiatives was a Call for Papers in partnership with the Sussex Sustainability Research Programme (SSRP) at the University of Sussex, and the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals, in view of an international workshop on "Financial Crises, Poverty and Environmental Sustainability in the Context of the SDGs". The workshop, which was to bring together academic experts from social and natural sciences, and national and international policy-making organizations, was planned for in June in Bangkok. In view of the Covid-19 pandemic the workshop was postponed to the second half of 2021.

232. The Call for Papers attracted 74 submissions; 60 of these came from contributors in low and middle-income countries²⁰, and 21 were selected for inclusion in two forthcoming publications. A special issue of the journal *Sustainable Development* will be published in early 2021; it includes a contribution by Isabell Kempf and Paramita Dutta titled "Universal social policies as an essential buffer during socioeconomic crises" and draws on a large body of UNRISD research. Additionally, a contract was signed with Springer for the publication of an edited volume provisionally titled *Financial Crises, Poverty and Environmental Sustainability in the Context of SDGs* (eds. Andreas Antoniadis, Alexander Antonarakis, and Isabell Kempf), forthcoming in late 2021.

Covid-19 and Ten Priority Options for a Just, Green and Transformative Recovery

233. UNRISD Bonn contributed to a joint communication regarding green recovery and Covid-19, titled *Covid-19 and Ten Priority Options for a Just, Green and Transformative Recovery*, by Partners for Inclusive Green Economy and launched on World Environment Day (5 June).²¹

HLPF 2020: SDGs Learning, Training & Practice

234. Another key activity in support of research uptake for the SDGs was a contribution from the programme to the Special Virtual Event at the HLPF 2020, as part of SDGs Learning, Training & Practice. The online capacity building and knowledge workshop titled "Sustainable and Just Economies: Lessons Learned from the Covid-19 Crisis and Enabling Factors for the SDGs" was co-organized in partnership with the ILO Green Jobs Programme; International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific); Global Reporting International (GRI); Women's Major Group (WGMG); World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA); the UN Global Compact; and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

²⁰ Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia

²¹ <https://www.greeneconomycoalition.org/publications/covid-19-ten-priority-options-for-a-just-green-transformative-recovery>

Inequalities

235. Inequalities were the focus of several research uptake activities through which UNRISD's Bonn office interacted with the fertile minds of future diplomats, young women economists, local government officials, practitioners and researchers.

- German Diplomatic Academy: Gender-health-inclusion nexus (25 November)
- Women in Economics Initiative (WiE): Gender equality and diversity in the economics profession (20 November)
- Bonn Symposium 2020: Climate change and air pollution. The local environment and inequality (6 November)
- European Forum on Science & Education for Sustainability 2020: Workshop on reversing inequalities (6 October)
- DGAP (German Council on Foreign Relations) Training for International Diplomats: Confronting violence against women, the power of women's movements (2 October)

Other communications and outreach

236. UNRISD's Communications and Outreach team produced a two-page flyer to introduce the Bonn Programme, new webpages on unrisd.org and unbonn.org (the latter in English and German), and a handout highlighting relevant recent UNRISD publications. A visual concept was designed for all the initial programme outputs, including the presentations delivered at the launch event, which brought together over 90 attendees from UN Bonn and beyond. The event was kicked off by a new version of *Introducing UNRISD*, a 1.5 minute "get-to-know-you" video produced by the C&O team.²² Finally, based on a press briefing note provided by UNRISD, the Press Office of the City of Bonn issued a press release which helped garner local newspaper coverage of the launch event in *General-Anzeiger*.²³



The new research institute is on the UN campus. Foto: benjamin westhoff

Bonn. The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is now part of the UN family in Bonn. Its focus is on sustainability issues and social justice.

²² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMWBirrYqic&feature=youtu.be>

²³ https://ga.de/ga-english/news/new-un-research-institute-begins-work_aid-48809427

237. C&O also produced a short interview with Isabell Kempf, the newly appointed Head of Office, discussing knowledge challenges at the United Nations, the role of research in the face of the current climate crisis, and her ideas about how science and action can work together.²⁴

238. Following UNRISD's arrival on the UN campus, C&O worked with the Bonn team to design the "representation board" for the programme for display in the lobby of Langer Eugen, and to include the UNRISD introductory video for viewing by visitors via a touch screen in the lobby.



239. In lieu of the UN Day celebration that usually takes place in Bonn's market square each October, due to Covid-19 an exhibition was held along the Rhine instead. Again C&O worked with the Bonn team to ensure that UNRISD was represented in this communications initiative with a coherently branded visual presence.



240. The activities of the Bonn Programme received regular coverage in the Institute's newsletters in 2020, including the February editions of UNRISD Direct (bespoke

²⁴ [https://unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/\(httpNews\)/8F6744113F387833802585130046B44D?OpenDocument](https://unrisd.org/unrisd/website/newsview.nsf/(httpNews)/8F6744113F387833802585130046B44D?OpenDocument)

research updates circulated to Missions to the United Nations and United Nations Policy and Research Teams) as well as the following eBulletins²⁵:

- Synergies and Sustainability. Issue 50 (February 2020)
- Covid-19: Inequalities. Vulnerabilities. Solidarities. Issue 51 (May 2020)
- Future-casting. Issue 52 (July 2020)
- Channels For Change. Issue 53 (September 2020)
- The Deep Dive. Issue 54 (November 2020)
- Renewals and Revolutions. Issue 55 (December 2020)

241. In December a special newsletter was circulated for the Bonn Office, focused on the programme’s work and achievements during its first year of operations. Regular posts were also prepared throughout the reporting period for various social media channels.

Programme Development and Future Directions

242. As a part of the consultation process for the UNRISD Institutional Strategy 2021-2025, the Bonn Programme organized a meeting with its partners based in the city to discuss strategic priorities for the coming five years, directions for future research, and how the UNRISD Bonn Office could continue and expand its mandate in the coming years.

243. A specific outcome of the meeting was a recommendation to develop a project proposal for a “New Eco-Social Contract Network” to connect policy makers, researchers and activists across the globe. Funding for this initiative is being sought as part of an expanded programme proposal to Germany. Under the new proposal (2021-2023), the Bonn Office would continue to pursue existing workstreams that aim to foster an integrated approach to knowledge and capacity development, and to improve evidence-based SDG implementation and research uptake by UN and other development partners in Bonn. The Eco-Social Contract Network project would be a new area of work that would aim to:

- cultivate thought leadership and shift public discourse on a new social contract linking the social and green agendas;
- establish a global platform on a new eco-social contract for inclusive green transitions;
- convene dialogues among policy decision-makers, civil society and social movements around the vision and actions for an eco-social contract; and
- demonstrate the convergence of the social and green agendas in civil society and social movements.

Start date: September 2019 – End date: August 2021

Total amount of earmarked funding: EUR 390’000 from the German Ministry for Development Cooperation (BMZ) and EUR 91,000 from the UN Liaison Office of the German Federal Foreign Office, plus additional support from UNRISD institutional funds.

²⁵ <https://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BE6B5/httpNewslettersMailChimp?ReadForm&view=bulletin>

Isabell Kempf (Head of Office–Senior Research Coordinator) leads the programme, with assistance from Paramita Dutta (Research Analyst). Sergio Sandoval (Communications and Outreach Unit) is also based in the Bonn Office.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

244. UNRISD aims to ensure that its research reaches a wide range of actors concerned with different facets of social development, and that its findings inform intergovernmental, national and sub-national policy formulation and implementation, civil society advocacy and action, and scholarly debates. In 2020 UNRISD pursued a range of innovative communications and outreach activities to make its research available, accessible and relevant to key stakeholders, to increase its reach and visibility in the global community, and to foster engagement and interaction with research users. During the reporting period the Institute's work in this area was guided by the UNRISD Strategy 2016–2020.

245. Overall, and in spite of changes wrought by the Covid-19 pandemic, UNRISD's Communications and Outreach Unit (C&O) fulfilled the objectives set out in the Institutional Workplan for 2020, including a focus on forging research-uptake linkages; raising institutional visibility and promoting awareness of our collective results and impacts; demonstrating the relevance of the Institute's research—specifically, on inequalities, social and solidarity economy, sustainability metrics, and climate justice—for SDG implementation; delivering creative and effective communication of research progress and findings; supporting enhanced engagement with UN processes and UN bodies; and engaging with others actors in “International Geneva” to advance our shared goals.

246. Members of C&O during the reporting period were:

- Jenifer Freedman (chief of unit)
- Joannah Caborn Wengler (consultant: communications, writing and web)
- Sergio Sandoval (consultant: design, multimedia, web and events)
- David Vergari (programme assistant)

247. During the reporting period, UNRISD:

- Produced and disseminated over 90 research-based outputs, including 27 working papers, research papers and occasional papers; one edited volume comprising 13 peer reviewed chapters; five policy briefs, and 19 blogs and think pieces.
- Added 14 videos and one podcast to our multimedia resource repository; and achieved over 379,268 video views via YouTube (due in large part to one video “going viral”²⁶), and over 132,369 podcast downloads.
- Produced six issues of the eBulletin and posted 11 online news articles, in addition to the posting of new content several times per week; dispatched two issues each of the targeted eNewsletters developed specifically to deliver the most relevant UNRISD content directly to member state delegations in Geneva, and UN development policy and research entities.
- Organized (or co-organized) 18 outreach events, about one third of which involved partners from other UN, academic, government or civil society entities, and six project workshops.
- Extended our followings on social media (including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn) as channels for outreach and interaction, with nearly

²⁶ “Oneness Vs. The 1%”, Vandana Shiva speaking at the UNRISD Conference “Overcoming Inequalities”.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ek2M-obq9LE>

34,000 Twitter followers @UNRISD, and over 25,300 likes on Facebook.

- Continued developing “suites” of research outputs grouped around a single major body of research, allowing multiple entry points and alternative channels to access the material. Examples of this approach in 2020 included outputs for the projects Sustainable Development Performance Indicators, and Integrated Solutions to Protracted Displacement (see below for more details).
- Took a lead role in the International Geneva initiative, From Science to Practice: Research and Knowledge to Achieve the SDGs.

The Impact of Covid-19 on UNRISD Communications

248. 2020 was of course marked by the Covid-19 pandemic, and UNRISD’s communications activities had to adapt to the new situation. While there was a brief initial hiatus in which some planned events could not go ahead, such as World Social Work Day, UNRISD rapidly pivoted to digital in both its internal and external communications.

249. In terms of internal communications, the pandemic hit at a time when a move to cloud-based IT infrastructure was in any case planned by UNOG’s IT services in order to allow more flexibility in where work can be done. This change was then accelerated by the new need to work from home. UNRISD communications personnel, including the IT focal point, were heavily involved in advising staff and accompanying the rapid change in internal communications. Learning sessions on how to use the new technology, and adapting ways of working to it, were attended and the knowledge gained transmitted to colleagues in meetings and ad hoc one-on-one sessions, and over time staff developed new habits and routines. Weekly virtual staff meetings were instigated to maintain professional and social cohesion within the Institute despite physical distance, and workflows were rapidly established in the new environment.

250. UNRISD’s external communications also became almost exclusively digital during the reporting period. This impacted most strongly on events (as UNRISD has long employed a “digital first” strategy for its other research outputs and communications) and there was a sharp learning curve, as in most other organizations, with communications staff attending online conferences on how to organize online conferences, and all personnel themselves participating in more online events to collect experience and inform their decisions about online event organization. While there is still more to be learned in this fast-moving field, the Institute was in July in a position to hold its first webinar which was a success in terms of managing the technology as well as attendance (see below for more details).

251. As is widely recognized, the enforced pivot to digital has in fact some advantages. First and foremost, an organization like UNRISD benefits from being released from the geographical shackles of its specific location, and via its existing global digital reach can bring audience members into the fold who would otherwise never be able to attend events in Geneva. This brings us closer to our aspiration of connecting broadly with stakeholders in the global South, and reaching beyond the “usual suspects” who regularly attend in-person events. Second there is an undeniable environmental benefit, with fewer flights meaning less CO2 released into the atmosphere. A resource-constrained organization like UNRISD also reaps a financial benefit from digital

events, as they are less costly to organize than paying for tickets and hotel rooms. And individuals gain the time they would otherwise have spent travelling to devote to occupations worth more to them. UNRISD is committed to continuing extensive use of digital events beyond the end of the pandemic, when we will be able to choose to combine them with strategic use of in-person activities where the face-to-face element is essential.

Networks and Partnering

252. In a context marked by the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, UNRISD's well-established networks and partnerships proved increasingly valuable. Vital institutional activities were able to go ahead despite limited personal contacts because UNRISD's digital networking is already advanced. Building on the experience of the pre-publication consultation process for the Institute's 2016 flagship report, two major consultation processes took place this year, with the associated communications implication needed to make them a success:

- a survey of UNRISD networks on which the Covid-19 report *Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis* was based;
- an online consultation with UNRISD networks to inform the development of the new Institutional Strategy for 2021-2025.

253. Please refer to the Institutional Impacts section for more details on these activities. A further activity was possible thanks to UNRISD's extensive networks: the use of evidence boxes to solicit contributions to the Science to Practice initiative. More details on this can also be found in the Institutional Impacts section. Finally, networking and building new partnerships is integral to the DNA of the Bonn Programme and its objectives of integrating research into capacity building activities and increasing research uptake into SDG implementation in the UN Bonn ecosystem. Details will be found in the reporting on the Bonn Programme.

254. Partnerships were also important for the success of several UNRISD events in 2020 as described further below.

Research Outputs

255. UNRISD's research outputs can be divided into two different categories. While each category is developed to target specific sectors in our audiences, we recognize that there are overlaps and a policy maker may well read an academic paper, or a researcher draw benefit from a brief.

Pure research products

256. "Pure research products" are targeted mainly at the academic community, although they can also be received more widely. In their style, content and format they follow the rules of traditional academic publishing. These outputs represent the main thrust of UNRISD's knowledge production in its pure form, and in their quality, rigour and originality are the basis for the Institute's high reputation.

During the reporting period, UNRISD produced 27 working, research and occasional papers. An edited volume was published with Palgrave Macmillan comprising 13 chapters from the UNRISD project Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization.

Research-derived products

257. “Research-derived products” are those whose primary target audience is policy makers and civil society practitioners or advocates who may be less likely to access UNRISD research in its pure form—at least initially. These types of outputs are useful because they select from the raw academic material those conclusions, findings, evidence and analytical insights that are closely related to current policy and practice concerns. These products are not research summaries, but short, accessible documents in which strong empirical evidence has been translated into clear and concise messages.

258. UNRISD published five research and policy briefs in 2020. The Institute also produced 19 blogs and think pieces, as well as 15 videos and podcasts.

“Suites” of research outputs

259. In recognition of the fact that hundreds of pages of academic writing, which is often the raw material the UNRISD communications team works from, requires transformation into other formats to become accessible to the different potential users of research findings across the development community, UNRISD this year continued its focus on developing “suites” of research outputs grouped around a single major body of research, allowing multiple entry points and alternative channels to access the same material. A suite of research outputs opens up a long academic work to a larger and more diverse audience. Via the selection of concise and relevant messages, it becomes useful to policy makers and advocates; through the use of different delivery channels, it becomes accessible to people with different preferences and opportunities for information absorption (reading text or slides, watching, interacting). It also increases the likelihood that more people will engage with the original research product in some way or form.

Sustainable Development Performance Indicators

260. UNRISD produced six outputs for the project Sustainable Development Performance Indicators in 2020, representing a suite of texts adapted to the different communication needs of different audiences.

261. The academic research component, which the others are based on, is a 200-page research report titled *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?*—which was itself produced with an eye to textual and visual accessibility, given the proximity to practice of the topic. Drawn from this major research output was a 30-page overview publication which summarizes the major findings and recommendations in the report and is intended for academics with less time than usual or policy makers with more. It is complemented by the shortest version: a four-page Research and Policy Brief for the practice oriented and the time constrained.

262. In addition to these outputs covering the main messages from the entire report, UNRISD also produced three Research and Policy Briefs on specific themes from the

report, in order to reach out to audiences beyond the sustainability performance and indicators community. They cover the issues of gender, fair remuneration and power imbalances. For more details on other aspects of this project, see the Institutional Impacts section of this report.

Integrated Solutions to Protracted Displacement

263. This suite of outputs comprises a theory of change (ToC) as its centre piece, as commissioned by UNDP and UNCHR to improve the cohesiveness of their field operations. A relatively short document (20 pages)—long enough to be comprehensive but short enough to be accessible to time-pressed practitioners—it is based on a longer scoping study and a background paper setting out the research on which the theory of change is based (by their mere presence enhancing the credibility of the ToC, even if they may be less widely read). Finally, there is a six-page Research and Policy Brief which can be distributed in settings where a longer document would not be appropriate, in order to guide potential users to the actual ToC. Each one of these documents would not be half as useful by itself; together they make up more than the sum of their parts. For more details on other aspects of this project, see the Institutional Impacts section of this report.

Promoting SSE through Public Policies: Guidelines for Local Governments

264. The main output in this suite is a set of Guidelines to help local governments map current SSE policies, identify gaps and how to go about filling them. It could not exist without the seven city case studies which provided the information and analysis on which the Guidelines draw. Each of case study goes into more detail about a specific city, providing a depth of vision which is turned into breadth of analysis as it is aggregated into the Guidelines. These outputs were produced during the reporting period; to round off the suite a Research and Policy Brief will be published in early 2021 which will help disseminate the analysis to those who do not have time or the need to digest the research in its longer form. For more details on other aspects of this project, see the Institutional Impacts section of this report.

Digital Strategy

265. 2020 was an atypical year. Covid changed digital communications and made us rethink our ways of operating and interacting with partners and stakeholders. As described above, C&O helped the Institute adapt to the “new normal” and continue to deliver on its mandate. C&O also supported the expansion of audiences both in geography, for example in Germany and Spanish-speaking countries, and topicality (with the report on Covid and vulnerable groups, or the communications suite on business accountability and sustainability reporting mentioned above). Working from home, we made webinars, video, surveys and online consultations our preferred ways to stay connected, listen to and communicate with our network, primary and secondary stakeholders. To put them and readers at the centre, in 2020 we revamped the interface of our newsletter and other email communications. This year we also examined and assessed our website in view of a major redesign project planned for 2021.

Figures summary

Selected digital metrics	2020	2019	2018
	Website		
Website visits average per month	25,186 ▼	26,551	27,806
Total number of downloads	45,275 ▲	41,548	45,183
Download briefs	2,440 ▼	2,556	2,219
Think pieces hits	4,120 ▲	2,429	3,511
Ratio <u>North:South</u>	58.11%:40.68%	54.56%:44.47%	56%:42%
	Multimedia		
YouTube video views	379,268 ▲	45,323	38,009
New videos posted on YouTube	10 ▼	21	14
YouTube Subscribers	6,725 ▲	2,119	1,851
Podcast downloads	132,369 ▲	55,600	48,266
	Social Media		
Facebook likes	24,308 ▲	21,629	17,624
Facebook interactions (average per month)	431 ▼	575	786
Twitter followers	33,981 ▲	32,848	30,823
Twitter interactions (average per month)	274 ▼	313	-
LinkedIn Followers	3,467 ▲	2,871	-
LinkedIn unique visitors	123 ▲	70	-

Website

266. In 2020 the UNRISD website attracted approximately 250,000 users, accounting for 300,000+ sessions and 640,000+ page views. 60% of the traffic to the website comes from Organic Search requests, 32% from Direct Traffic, 5% from Referrals, and 3% from Social Media. Website visitors come from 50+ countries, 58.11% are in the global North and 40.68% in the global South.

Web traffic: top countries	2020 visits
United Kingdom	37,692
United States	35,000
India	19,885
Mexico	16,886
Philippines	13,944
Germany	11,995
Switzerland	11,161
Canada	9,184
France	7,661
Australia	6,602

Mexico (+2,453). Other locations worth mentioning are South Africa (5,588 pageviews), Colombia (5,294), Spain (4,907), Italy (4,410) and the Netherlands (4,247). The most visited sections of the website remain *Publications* with 133,264 pageviews in 2020, *Research* (110,754), *About Us* (71,477) and *News and Views* (50,000).

268. “Globalization”; “democracy”; “gender”; “development”; “gender (in)equality”; “social policy (measurement)”; “women’s (labour) rights+neoliberalism”; “elderly care”; “environmental protection (responsibility)”; “social protection”; “solidarity economy”; “SDGs”; “civil society influence”; and “just transition” are some of the organic keywords on search engines leading to access the UNRISD website. “Ethnic conflict”; “identity politics”; “health institutions”; “environmental racism”; “business responsibility”; “project proposal” were also prominent this year in the list of search keywords.

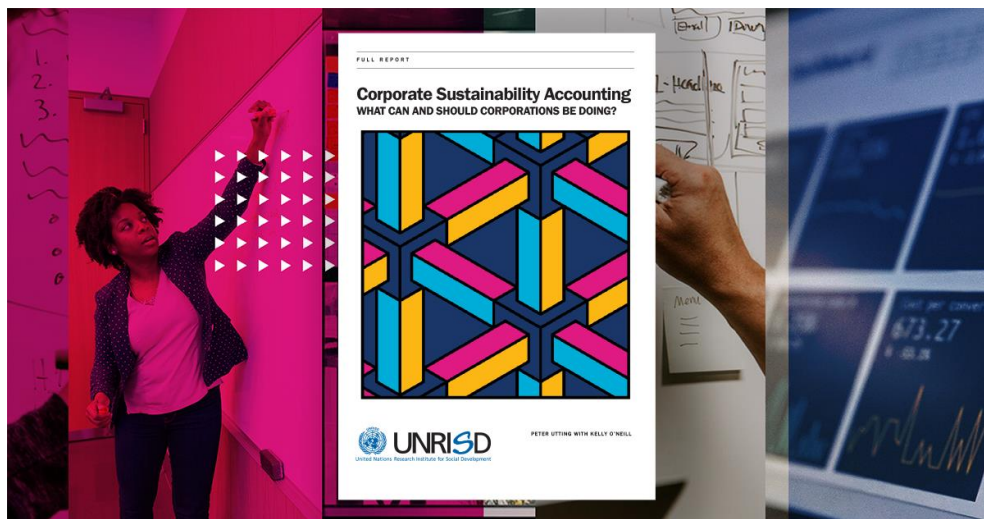
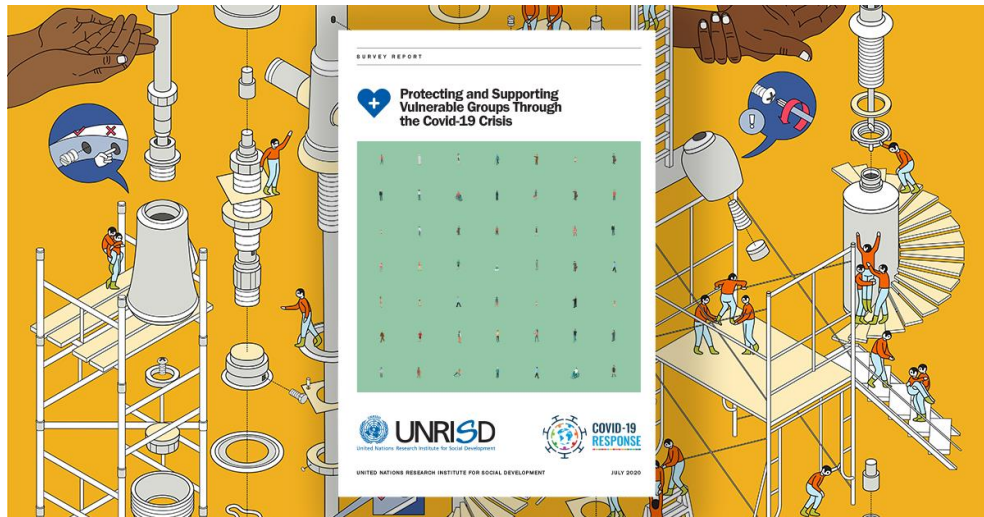
269. It is the Institute’s ambition to redesign its website and launch a revamped site by end-2021. To this end, during 2020 C&O worked on documenting identified needs, current “pain points”, desired outputs as well as required parameters for a new website that will be instrumental in increasing the visibility and impact of UNRISD, its digital presence and user experience. Terms of reference for the project were prepared and submitted to UNOG’s Procurement service in autumn 2020.

270. Some redesign already happened in 2020. One of the biggest improvements this year in the digital department was upgrading our newsletter services. Since the summer of 2020, C&O has used Mailchimp to keep its subscribers up to date about publications, events, research, job vacancies and other institutional information. The new provider, which was integrated into the UNRISD site, had helped us improve at the back end, giving us a better experience when creating, dispatching and monitoring email communications, and at the front end, allowing us to design campaigns and communications that are more visually engaging, interactive and dynamic. Our audience in Mailchimp during 2020 amounted to 19,162 contacts, of which 18,693 are subscribers. On average, the eBulletin open rate was 17.6% and for special newsletters, targeted at Missions, UN Policy and Research Teams, and the UN Bonn community, was 27.3%.

Digital-first publications

271. This year the number of publication downloads was 45,275, an indicator that increased 8.2% compared to 2019. *Policy Innovations for Transformative Change: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (UNRISD flagship report 2016) continues to be the most downloaded publication (7,509 hits), with 2,211 more downloads compared to last year. Publications highlights of 2020 include initial findings of the project Sustainable Development Performance Indicators, published under the title *Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?* Besides the 200-page report, the publication suite (Overview, four Research and Policy briefs and three Working Papers), reached 3,940 downloads between their publication date and the end of the year (the Overview and the Report were published in August and November respectively). Occasional Papers derived from the UNRISD stream of work on Overcoming Inequalities gathered 1,299 downloads this year; Working Papers presenting case studies for the project Promoting Social and Solidarity Economy through Public Policies: Guidelines for Local Governments were downloaded 623 times, and Briefs 2,440 times. The table below ranks the most downloaded publications of the year.

Most Downloaded Publications of the Year	Downloads
Policy Innovations for Transformative Change: Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	7,509
From WID to GAD: Conceptual Shifts in the Women and Development Discourse	1,350
Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?	970
Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis	875
Compared to What? A Three-Tiered Typology of Sustainable Development Performance Indicators: From Incremental to Contextual to Transformational	829
How Can Cryptocurrency and Blockchain Technology Play a Role in Building Social and Solidarity Finance?	748
Mapping Just Transition(s) to a Low-Carbon World	731
Social Protection and Poverty, in UNRISD Flagship Report: Combating Poverty and Inequality	661
Climate Justice from Below: Local Struggles for Just Transition(s)	472
Sustainable Development Impact Indicators for Social and Solidarity Economy: State of the Art	439



Events, and the shift to digital

272. UNRISD (co-)organized 18 events during 2020 and staff contributed expertise as panellists and speakers at 44 events organized by others. Central in the work programme of C&O in 2020 was supporting the design and delivery of the events convened by UNRISD, and in particular the pivot to virtual as discussed further below. Even though most UNRISD events of the reporting period were organized by the Institute on its own, partnerships were the key to some events which UNRISD would not have been able to hold by itself.

273. The Global Social Economy Forum has proved to be a loyal funding and events partner over the last few years and their virtual yearly event held in October offered UNRISD opportunities to profile two projects with SSE components to an international practitioner audience. Without the local partner, NGO People for Earth, the DEEPEN conference could not have taken place. While UNRISD delivered the research competence and international convening power, the local partner was responsible for local and digital organization, and convening speakers and audience within the Republic of Korea. This sharing of responsibilities was key to making the conference work.

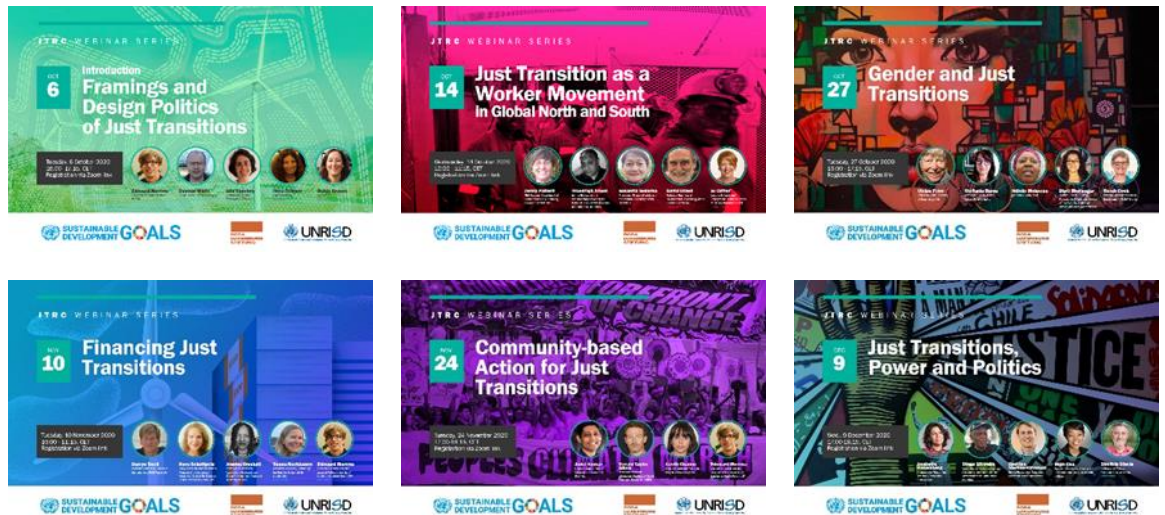
274. Strong partnerships also underlie UNRISD’s participation in UN events, such as the side event held at the Commission for Social Development and the launch of UNRISD’s Bonn office (both still in person in February 2020), and the High-Level Political Forum (virtually in July 2020).

275. To adapt to the virtual environments that emerged and became “the new normal” as a result of Covid lockdown measures, UNRISD migrated to Microsoft Teams for internal meetings and allocated resources to purchase a broadcasting license in Zoom for public events such as conferences, seminars, consultation meetings, etc. Resources were also allocated to train staff members on planning, organizing and delivering virtual and hybrid events.



276. In 2020 the Institute organized seven webinars. These virtual public events allowed us to engage digitally with a range of stakeholders on social and sustainable development issues. In some cases, digital events served as a platform to initiate and strengthen relations with new collaborators from the global South, an unintended consequence of the new, remote modes of operating. The first of these webinars disseminated the results of the Institute’s report on *Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups through the Covid-19 Crisis*. The remaining six, a series of the Just Transition

Research Collaborative, focused on multisectoral and transdisciplinary discussions around justice in decarbonization contexts. On average, 166 people attended each webinar, an attendance rate of 46% in relation to registration. Webinar attendees joined from 40+ countries, stayed on average 44,71 minutes per session and interacted with the panel 21 times via the Q/A box.



Twitter cards for the webinar series Justice in Low Carbon Transitions

Multi- and Social Media

277. In 2020 C&O produced and posted 14 videos on the UNRISD YouTube channel. The Unit collaborated in the co-production of eight more videos on the [Cheorwon Forum YouTube channel](#) for the conference Development, Environment and Peace Nexus (DEEPEN): Peace Making in Borderlands.

278. The video *Oneness vs. The 1%: #VandanaShiva at the United Nations Office at Geneva* accumulated over 330,000 hits, becoming a viral video on the Institute’s channel and surpassing in views the UNRISD YouTube classic *Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing Back the Social* (over 230,000 cumulative views), which until now had been the most watched video from our channel. The video, a presentation by world-renowned eco-feminist Vandana Shiva from the UNRISD conference *Overcoming Inequalities*, boosted yearly video views by 88%, gathered 1,400+ comments and attracted 4,606 new subscribers to the UNRISD channel.

279. The playlist *Justice in Low-Carbon Transitions*, a series of six webinar livestreams (see above), gathered 2,000+ views to date.



280. On the occasion of the inauguration of the UNRISD office in Bonn, and to seek new partnerships in the this “sustainability hub”, C&O produced a new institutional

promotional video, *Introducing UNRISD*, which to date has 300 views and 20k impression on social media (see Tweets of 2020 with most engagement). The video aimed to capture and communicate what UNRISD does—generates knowledge and insight on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues—and how—working with its global networks to undertake interdisciplinary research and policy analysis. To complete the outputs around the launch of the Office, in February, C&O posted the podcast “*Climate action has to be fast but also fair*”. *Interview with Isabell Kempf, Head of UNRISD Bonn Office* (247 downloads)²⁷.

281. Similarly, to announce the new Gender Justice and Development programme, C&O produced and posted a video interview with Francisco Cos-Montiel, programme lead, who joined UNRISD at the beginning of November 2020. The video is titled “*Feminism frees women but also frees men*”. *Interview with Francisco Cos-Montiel* and has been viewed 196 times on YouTube to date.

Most Watched Videos on YouTube	Views in 2020	Accumulated views (up to 22 Jan 2020)
Oneness vs. The 1%: #VandanaShiva at the United Nations Office at Geneva	325,970	330,887
Green Economy and Sustainable Development: Bringing Back the Social	16,806	233,861
Engines of Inequality? Elites, Power and Politics	6,049	9,395
Partnerships, Power and the SDGs: an UNRISD Seminar	1,710	3,316
Inequalities and the 1% in the Context of Sustainable Development	1,701	2,168

282. On average, every month of 2020 users interacted (comments, shares, likes) with the Institute via Facebook 431 times and 274 times via Twitter (clicks, likes, replies). UNRISD’s twitter handle was mentioned 75 times and posts got retweeted 76 times on average every month. Facebook audiences increased by 11.02% in relation to the previous year (24,308 likes in 2020), while followers on Twitter grew but more slowly, 3.33% more compared to 2019 (33,981 followers in 2020).

283. With quite a high number of opportunities to partner and work with us, LinkedIn was an active channel and, after YouTube, the best performing UNRISD social network during the reporting year. We had on average 123 monthly unique visitors (53 more compared to 2019) and secured 3,467 followers (17% growth compared to 2019). The platform is also shifting from a job market board to a more social, interactive media to discover what companies do, their events and ways of engaging with various professional communities.

284. In a year of uncertainty and agitated public discourse, UNRISD created many opportunities to hear from our audiences. 2020 was a year for listening and engaging with our networks through online consultations and digital surveys. For example, the survey “Evidence for Transformative Change: UNRISD Survey on Responses to Covid-19 and Vulnerable Communities”, which was promoted between 27 April and 19 May, gathered 40,364 impressions and 1,314 engagements. Similarly, the call for contributions “From Science To Practice: Research And Knowledge To Achieve The SDGs”, promoted under the tagline “Help transform research and knowledge from International Geneva into progress on global development goals”, reached 40,411 impressions and 892 engagements on Twitter. The online consultation and co-design exercise “Help Shape UNRISD’s Next Institutional Strategy” had 10,484 impressions and 86 online interactions (click, likes, replies).

²⁷ Podcast data for February 2020 unavailable

285. Listed below are our top followers in 2020, that is, individuals or organizations who are listening to what we have to say about social development and who have potential to multiply UNRISD messages across policy making audiences, the UN system, (mainstream) media and practitioner communities. Their following basis is indicated in parenthesis. C&O will continue communicating with them, bringing, when possible and pertinent, other UNRISD projects, products and activities to their attention.

Tweets of 2020 with most engagement	Impressions
Did you know that @UNGeneva, there's a research institute that generates knowledge and insight on the social dimensions of development issues to position equity, inclusion and justice at the centre of #development thinking, policy and practice? youtu.be/AMWBirrYqic	20.2K
We mourn the loss today of Thandika Mkandawire, intellectual giant and former @UNRISD Director. Rest in peace, Thandika.	14.9K
No one left behind! Help us analyse #COVID19 measures and encourage policy responses that are sensitive to the needs of vulnerable people and groups. Take the survey here bit.ly/unrisd-covid-s... Contribute with your expertise!	8,877
DEADLINE EXTENDED Join @UNRISD team! We seek an outstanding researcher to lead our new programme of work on #Gender Justice and Development. Apply here unrisd.org/gender-program... #JobOpportunity Deadline 26 July 2020	6,519
"#COVID19 is a disease of poverty, powerlessness, inequity and injustice" - @davidnabarro Re-live @UNRISD webinar on vulnerabilities and #COVID19 Watch the recordings youtu.be/mxH7h9OvyeM Read the report unrisd.org/covid-19-vulne...	5,784
#Job opportunities (1/3) Do you have experience working on #foodsystems and #nutrition patterns? Would you like to work at the interface of policy and science? Join the team! Read more and apply here unrisd.org/consultancy-fo...	5,753
At this multidisciplinary conference, speakers will explore the #development-#environment-#peace nexus in borderlands, challenge conventional approaches and introduce innovative theories + practices for sustainable and peaceful development. Learn more unrisd.org/deepen	4,437
Four research insights crucial to respond to #COVID19: (1) Integrate social and economic policies (2) Put the economy at the services of social and environmental interests (3) Use the crisis to improve institutions and systems (4) Understand the politics around pandemics	3,472
You've given us your input. We've analysed policies and institutional frameworks responding to #COVID—19. Don't miss the presentation of findings at this webinar. Panelists include: @davidnabarro, @PJLaddUN, @eva_bortolotti, @ARockaya. Register here bit.ly/webinar-covid-...	3,563
Join the #JustTransition conversation next week! In a new webinar, the @JTRC2018 discusses the role of formal and informal workers, their ways of organizing and the interlinkages between the worker movement in climate policy. Register here bit.ly/just-transitio...	3,457
From elites perception to political transparency, these are some of the themes explored in depth in our occasional paper series on overcoming #inequalities. Have a look and download the open-access materials here unrisd.org/overcomingineq... Stayed tuned for more work on #SDG10!	3,093
Calling academic, civil society and practice communities! Help transform research and knowledge from International Geneva into progress on global development goals. Read how and get involved! unrisd.org/from-science-t...	2,871
"#ClimateAction has to be fast but also fair". Podcast-interview with Isabell Kempf, Head of @UNRISD new office @UNBonn http://bit.ly/new-head-office-bonn	4,109
For this weekend The @UNRISD anti-racism reading list: research to challenge racial injustice bit.ly/unrisd-anti-ra...	1,471

Twitter Top Followers

The Better India

[@thebetterindia](#) (615,8K)

India's largest media platform for uplifting stories and social impact.

FAO

[@FAO](#) (416.3K)

Working for a sustainable 🌍 and secure #FutureofFood for all. Our actions are our future. Follow our Director-General QU Dongyu, @FAODG. #FAO75

Brigitte LG Baptiste

[@BrigitteLgb](#) (108,8K)

Colombia

Naturally transgender

Bulut BAĞCI

[@bulutbagci](#) (56.9K)

President of WTFI 'World Tourism Forum Institute' @globaltourismforum @wtourismforum

Fusades

[@fusades](#) (44,1K)

El Salvador

Private, independent non-profit organization, founded in 1983 to promote social development and economic progress in El Salvador.

Héctor M. Ramírez

[@CROWRDREAM](#) (27,7K)

Los Angeles

Disability rights advocate & policy work focusing on the intersections that impact disabled people. Board member @NDRNadvocates, @DisabilityCA

OECD on Development

[@OECDdev](#) (25.3K)

We share statistics, info and guidance from @OECD work on development finance, practice, policy and partnerships 📊 🌐

Metropolis

[@metropolis_org](#) (20,6K)

The global network of major cities and #MetropolitanAreas, with 138 members worldwide, finding common answers to the challenges of #MetroGovernance

Proantioquia

[@Proantioquia1](#) (10,4K)

Enterprise and social commitment with the sustainable development of the region and the country. Private foundation.

Ethos. Laboratorio de Políticas Públicas

[@ethoslabmx](#) (9,8K)

Think Tank that transforms research and expertise in public policy recommendations addressing challenges in Mexico and the world.

Luis Bonilla-Molina

[@Luis_Bonilla_M](#) (4,7K)

Panama

Pedagogue, director at <http://otrasvoceseneducacion.org> and OVEP/ OIREPOD. Studies on Venezuela's crisis; Singularity

Mariela Saldívar

[@Marielasvmx](#) (2,6K)

Mexico

Parliamentarian in Nuevo Leon. Combating corruption. In Twitter to communicate, denounce and give tools to citizens.

Amigos Español ONU

[@gaeonuny](#) (9,3K)

NY

Friends of Spanish Language Group [Grupo de Amigos del Español (GAE)] at the United Nations was created 16/09/13

Tilman Brück

[@tilmanbrueck](#) (671)

Development economist analysing how people cope with hunger, poverty, conflict, fragility and disaster @ISDCBerlin
[@IGZ_Leibniz](#)

Red LACTI

[@SinTrabInfantil](#) (5,5K)

Latin American network against child labour. Fostered by ILO.

Red Latinoamericana contra el #TrabajoInfantil: espacio de encuentro impulsado por la OIT.

UNOSSC

[@UNOSSC](#) (4K)

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation promotes, coordinates and supports cooperation amongst and between countries of the Global South.

CCUNESCO

[@CCUNESCO](#) (2,6K)

The Canadian Commission for UNESCO carries out the work of UNESCO in Canada | La Commission canadienne pour l'UNESCO met en œuvre la mission de l'UNESCO au Can.

Daniel Espinoza

[@Despinozacuevas](#) (2,4K)

Catholic | President @DiversidadRN | Militant @RnChile

Maintaining “Traditional” Publication and Dissemination Channels

286. While many of the Institute’s communications initiatives during the reporting period emphasized digital channels, institutional and research outputs continue to be produced in a mix of print and digital formats. For many years now digital publication has been UNRISD’s default format where this is possible and appropriate—for working papers and newsletters, for example. Where printed formats are required, UNRISD continues to produce them to the extent resources allow while rationalizing print runs and expanding digital access via its website, e-books, research portals, etc. UNRISD remains committed to partnering with reputed scholarly publishers, which confer status on the work commissioned under UNRISD projects, and provide valuable “legitimacy” functions for researchers. Such publishing arrangements also allow the Institute to benefit from the expertise and distribution networks of experienced and internationally renowned publishers. In 2020, the 18th title in the UNRISD / Palgrave Macmillan series, *Social Policy in a Development Context*, was published. Contracts were signed with Zed Books / Bloomsbury and with Springer for titles to be published in 2021, as well as with the journals *Sustainable Development* and *Critical Social Policy*.

Depository libraries

287. UNRISD has always emphasized dissemination of its publications to libraries and similar public-access institutions in the North and South. These libraries receive the

eBulletin informing them when new publications are available for download or for addition to their digital collections, as well as in-house publications that are produced in print (as far as resources allow). The number of UNRISD depository libraries remained constant in 2020 at 284: 90 Africa (32%); 49 Asia (17%); 6 Australia/Oceania (1%); 60 Europe (21%); 42 Latin America/Caribbean (15%); 29 Near East (10%); 8 North America (3%).

288. Among these are 12 UN agency libraries: UNECA (Ethiopia), UNOG (Geneva), UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (Italy), ESCWA (Lebanon), UNU (Japan), UNESCO (France), ECLAC/CEPEL (Chile), UNEP (Kenya), UN Dag Hammarskjold Library (USA), ESCAP (Thailand), UN DESA (USA), ITC/ILO (Italy).

Bibliographic citations

289. In 2020 UNRISD identified 100 bibliographic citations of the Institute's work in academic journals, in publications and documents of civil society organizations, national governments, multilateral agencies, United Nations organizations and specialized agencies. Tracking citations is a labour-intensive pursuit, and during the reporting period UNRISD allocated its resources to higher-productivity activities.

Consultative and Advisory Activities

290. A telling indicator of the uptake and relevance of UNRISD research is the number of requests received each year for consultative and advisory services. Staff are regularly called upon to advise, consult with and provide briefings, presentations and seminars to interested parties. Staff are also invited to sit on expert groups, committees, editorial boards and task teams. These activities, undertaken in addition to the regular programme of work, strengthen collaboration, disseminate research findings, share knowledge with stakeholders, and contribute to new thinking and policy debate on development issues.

291. UNRISD was highly responsive to the many demands received during the reporting period for research inputs and other substantive contributions, leading to the fulfilment of over 100 requests. 48 of these were for UN and specialized agencies in 2020.

ANNEX 1: RESEARCH OUTPUTS

External publications

Books, chapters in books, journal articles and papers

- 1 The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development: An Introduction Pages 1-37, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Katja Hujo and Yusuf Bangura | 17 July 2020
- 2 Fiscal Capacity and Aid Allocation: Domestic Resource Mobilization and Foreign Aid in Developing Countries Pages 41-74, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Aniket Bhushan and Yiagadeesen Samy | 17 July 2020
- 3 Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa: Can Foreign Aid Act as a Catalyst? Pages 75-108, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Cécile Cherrier | 17 July 2020
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- 5 Colonial Legacies and Social Welfare Regimes in Africa: An Empirical Exercise Pages 139-172, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Thandika Mkandawire | 17 July 2020
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- 8 Sharing the Wealth: The Politics of Subnational Distribution of Natural Resource Revenues Pages 237-266, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Javier Arellano-Yanguas and Andrés Mejía-Acosta | 17 July 2020
- 9 Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development in Bolivia (1985–2014): Protests, Hydrocarbons and a New State Project Pages 269-303, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Verónica Paz Arauco | 17 July 2020
- 10 The Political Economy of Domestic Resource Mobilization in Nicaragua: Changing State-Citizen Relations and Social Development Pages 305-338, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Gloria Carrión | 17 July 2020
- 11 The Political Economy of Resource Mobilization for Social Development in Uganda Pages 339-370, in *The Politics of Domestic Resource Mobilization for Social Development*, Palgrave Macmillan | Anne Mette Kjær and Marianne S. Ulriksen | 17 July 2020
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- 1 Development, Climate and Economic Policy: The Need for Narrative Shift, in *AfronomicsLaw* | Vicente Paolo B. Yu III | 19 November 2020

- 2 Decolonising gender and migration research through collaborative thinking and practice, in MIDEQ Blog, 3 | Tanja Bastia, Nicola Piper, Kavita Datta, Matthew Walsham and Katja Hujo | November 2020.
- 3 International organisations in Geneva - their approaches to SDGs and the challenges, in IDE-JETRO | Akiko Hiratsuka-Sasaki | 15 April 2020
- 4 Covid-19 and the SDGs - an 'opportunity' for sustainable urban development, in IDE-JETRO | Akiko Hiratsuka-Sasaki | 2 July 2020
- 5 What 'coal phase-out' means for communities, climate change and jobs (Part One), in IDE-JETRO | Akiko Hiratsuka-Sasaki | 15 September 2020
- 6 What 'coal phase-out' means for communities, climate change and jobs (Part Two), in IDE-JETRO | Akiko Hiratsuka-Sasaki | 15 December 2020
- 7 What role for the Social and Solidarity Economy in the post COVID-19 crisis recovery? (English, French and Korean) | Statement by the members and observers of the UNTFSSE | 23 June 2020
- 8 COVID-19: Ten Priority Options for a Just, Green & Transformative Recovery | Statement by the members of the Green Economy Coalition | 5 June 2020

In-house publications and other outputs

Reports

- 1 Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis | Paul Ladd, Eva Bortolotti | 8 July 2020
- 2 Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?—Overview | Peter Utting, Kelly O'Neill | 20 August 2020
- 3 Corporate Sustainability Accounting: What Can and Should Corporations Be Doing?—Full Report | Peter Utting, Kelly O'Neill | 30 November 2020
- 4 VoiceIt Report: Strengthening LGBTQI+'s Voice in Politics National Report - Italy | Barbara Giovanna Bello, Giulia Casu - "Anziani e non solo" - ANS, Italy | 17 December 2020
- 5 VoiceIt Report: Strengthening LGBTQI+'s Voice in Politics National Report - Greece | Maria Elli Doufexi Kaplani & Nikos Kostis - KMOP | 17 December 2020
- 6 VoiceIt Report: Strengthening LGBTQI+'s Voice in Politics National Report - Cyprus | Andreas Avgousti, Elena Vasiliou | 17 December 2020
- 7 VoiceIt Report: Strengthening LGBTQI+'s Voice in Politics - Policy Report | Maria Elli Doufexi Kaplani - KMOP, Maggie Carter - UNRISD | 17 December 2020

Research and Policy Briefs

- 1 Measuring Corporate Sustainability: Towards Accounting Fit for the SDGs | Peter Utting | 22 April 2020
- 2 Gender Equality in the Workplace: Measuring What Matters for Transformative Change | Peter Utting | 22 September 2020
- 3 Social and Solidarity Economy for the Integration of Migrants and Refugees: Experiences from Three European Cities | Ilcheong Yi, Samuel Brülisauer, Kamen Chaddha | 1 October 2020
- 4 Fair Remuneration: Tackling Both the Top and Bottom of the Income Pyramid | Peter Utting | 28 October 2020
- 5 Reconfiguring Power Relations: The Missing Link in Sustainability Reporting | Peter Utting | 4 December 2020

Conference Paper

- 1 From Science to Practice: Strengthening Research Uptake to Achieve the SDGs | Maggie Carter | 20 March 2020

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- 1 Creative Coalitions in a Fractured World: An Opportunity for Transformative Change? | Gabriele Köhler | 4 February 2020
- 2 Achieving SDG 10: A Global Review of Public Service Inclusion Strategies for Ethnic and Religious Minorities | Ghazala Mir, Saffron Karlsen, Winnie Mitullah, Upendra Bhojani, Benjamin Uzochukwu, Chinyere Okeke, Tolib Mirzoev, Bassey Ebenso, Naila Dracup and Gary Dymski, Doan Thi Thuy Duong, Bui Thi Thu Ha, Steve Ouma, Felicia Onibon, Joyce Ogwezi, Shahab Adris | 4 February 2020

- 3 Le processus d'appauvrissement des classes moyennes en Haïti et ses conséquences économiques et sociales | Alrich Nicolas | 9 March 2020
- 4 Inequality, Power and Policy Change: How Chile Moved Towards Greater Political Transparency | Bettina Schorr | 11 May 2020
- 5 Seeing Inequality? Relative Affluence and Elite Perceptions in Mexico | Alice Krozer | 12 May 2020
- 6 Elites and Inequality: A Case Study of Plutocratic Philanthropy in the UK | Luna Glucksberg, Louise Russell-Prywata | 17 July 2020
- 7 (Re-)Negotiating Gender and Class: New Forms of Cooperation Among Small-Scale Fishers in Tamil Nadu | Nitya Rao, R. Manimohan | 27 August 2020
- 8 Two Decades Under Windmills: Energy Transition and Entrenched Inequalities in La Venta, Mexico | Gerardo A. Torres Contreras | 27 August 2020
- 9 Business Elites in Panama: Sources of Power and State Capture | Julian Cardenas, Francisco Robles-Rivera | 23 November 2020

Research Papers

- 1 The Gender Implications of Transformations in the Copper Value Chain: A Case Study of the Zambian Copperbelt | Hanna Haile | 29 October 2020
- 2 Transformative Adaptation and Social Justice in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam | Huynh Thi Phuong Linh and Nguyen Hong Quan | December 2020
- 3 Adaptation to Climate Change Decision Making and Opportunities for Transformation in Jakarta, Indonesia | Hendricus Andy Simarmata and Gusti Ayu Ketut Surtiari | December 2020
- 4 Transformative Adaptation to Climate Change and Informal Settlements in Coastal Cities. Entry Points for Jakarta and Ho Chi Minh City | Minh Tran and Dunja Krause | December 2020

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- 1 "A Public and a Private University in One": Equity in University Attendance in Kenya since the Liberalization Reforms of the 1990s | Rebecca Simson, J. Andrew Harris | 23 March 2020
- 2 Climbing the Ladder: Determinants of Access to and Returns from Higher Education in Chile and Peru | Anja Gaentzsch, Gabriela Zapata-Román | 14 April 2020
- 3 Inequalities in Higher Education Access and Completion in Brazil | Tristan McCowan, Julio Bertolin | 16 April 2020
- 4 Public Policies Enabling the Social and Solidarity Economy in the City of Montreal | Marguerite Mendell, Nancy Neamtan, Hyuna Yi | 28 April 2020
- 5 Policy Systems and Measures for the Social Economy in Seoul | Kil Soon Yoon, Sang Youn Lee | 17 July 2020
- 6 Public Policies Fostering the Social and Solidarity Economy in Barcelona (2016-2019) | Rafael Chaves-Avila, Jordi Via-Llop, Jordi Garcia-Jané | 20 July 2020
- 7 La política pública de fomento de la economía social y solidaria en Barcelona (2016-2019) | Rafael Chaves-Avila, Jordi Via-Llop, Jordi Garcia-Jané | 20 July 2020
- 8 Políticas de fomento de la economía social y solidaria: estudio de caso de la Ciudad de México | Juan Jose Rojas Herrera, Roberto Canedo Villarreal | 6 August 2020
- 9 The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: Towards Differentiated Configurations | Sebastian Benedikt Weishaupt | 7 September 2020
- 10 Creating an Enabling Environment for the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) through Public Policies in Durban, South Africa | Susan Steinman | 22 September 2020
- 11 Higher Education Expansion and Social Inequalities in Sub-Saharan Africa: Conceptual and Empirical Perspectives | Yann Lebeau, Ibrahim Ogachi Oanda | 5 October 2020
- 12 Responding to Protracted Displacement Using the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approach: UNDP and UNHCR Theory of Change | Rebecca Roberts | 27 November 2020
- 13 Responding to Protracted Displacement Using the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approach: Scoping Study | Rebecca Roberts | 27 November 2020
- 14 Public Policy and Devolved Governance: Facilitating the Social and Solidarity Economy in the Liverpool City Region | Helen Heap, Alan Southern and Matt Thompson | 17 December 2020

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- 1 We Need a Green and Just Transformation to Recover from Covid-19 (2 Jun 2020) | Isabell Kempf, Dunja Krause
- 2 Nous avons besoin d'une transformation verte et juste pour nous remettre du Covid-19 (2 juin 2020) | Isabell Kempf, Dunja Krause
- 3 From Science to Practice: Strengthening Research Uptake to Achieve the SDGs (20 May 2020) | Maggie Carter
- 4 COVID-19 Sends the Care Economy Deeper into Crisis Mode (4 May 2020) | Silke Staab
- 5 Le Covid-19 accélère la crise de l'économie des soins (4 mai 2020) | Silke Staab
- 6 Surging or Subsiding? How Mining Sector Booms Impact Female Empowerment (4 May 2020) | Audrey Au Yong Lyn
- 7 Creating Crisis-Resistant Policies and Institutions Post-Covid-19: Learning from UNRISD Research (14 Apr 2020) | Ilcheong Yi
- 8 Concevoir des politiques et des institutions résistantes à la crise après-Covid-19 : Tirer les leçons des recherches de l'UNRISD (14 avril 2020) | Ilcheong Yi
- 9 The Future of Work in the Post-Covid-19 Digital Era (8 Apr 2020) | Maria Mexi
- 10 L'avenir du travail à l'ère numérique post-Covid-19 (8 avril 2020) | Maria Mexi
- 11 Our Common Right to Health (8 Apr 2020) | Gabriele Köhler
- 12 Notre droit commun à la santé (8 avril 2020) | Gabriele Köhler
- 13 How Social Development Steps Up To The Plate in Times of Crisis: Learning from the Past, Surviving the Pandemic, Creating Sustainable Futures (7 Apr 2020) | UNRISD
- 14 Comment le développement social répond aux défis en temps de crise: Tirer les leçons du passé, survivre à la pandémie, créer un avenir durable (7 avril 2020) | UNRISD
- 15 Labs Versus Lies? Evidence for Policy Making in Our Post-Truth World (19 Feb 2020) | Paul Ladd
- 16 Rights Through Representation: How UNRISD Research is Contributing to LGBTIQ+ Inclusion in Politics (16 Dec 2020) | Maggie Carter
- 17 Gender Justice in Development: UNRISD's Contribution to the Global Project of Gender Equality (16 Dec 2020) | Francisco Cos-Montiel
- 18 The Pandemic and the Planetary Crisis (17 Dec 2020) | John Barry
- 19 Indigenous Views on Just Transition in Northern Patagonia (17 Dec 2020) | Pablo Aránguiz Mesias

Produced Videos

- 1 Panel Discussion - Inequality and The 1%: Is a Transformative Fiscal Policy Possible? | 6 January 2020
- 2 Welcome remarks - Inequality and The 1%: Is a Transformative Fiscal Policy Possible? | 6 January 2020
- 3 "Inequality is solved by politics" - Perspectives from Norway on Progressive Fiscal Policy | 6 January 2020
- 4 "Inequities are not inevitable" - Perspectives from Uruguay on Progressive Fiscal Policy | 6 January 2020 |
- 5 Introducing UNRISD | 19 February 2020
- 6 The Politics of Social Inclusion: Bridging Knowledge and Policies Towards Social Change | 3 April 2020
- 7 Lives or Livelihoods? Protecting and Supporting Vulnerable Groups Through the Covid-19 Crisis | 9 July 2020
- 8 Framings and Design Politics of Just Transitions | 6 October 2020
- 9 Just Transition as a Worker Movement in Global North and South | 14 October 2020
- 10 Gender and Just Transitions | 27 October 2020
- 11 Financing Just Transitions | 10 November 2020
- 12 Community-Based Action for Just Transitions | 24 November 2020
- 13 Just Transitions, Power and Politics | 9 December 2020
- 14 Feminism frees women but also frees men". Interview with Francisco Cos-Montiel | 16 December 2020

Podcast

- 1 Interview with Isabell Kempf, Head of UNRISD Bonn Office | 7 Feb 2020

ANNEX 2: RBM LOGFRAME

2020 was the final year of work under the *UNRISD Strategy 2016–2020: Transformations to Equity and Sustainability*. Guided by this strategic framework that links research, communications, policy engagement, results and impact, during the reporting period UNRISD pursued comprehensive range of activities.

A new RBM Logframe for 2020-2022 accompanied the funding agreements signed in 2020 with Sweden and Switzerland for the programme of work “Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Compact”. While the overall purpose and objective of UNRISD remain unchanged—to produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas for socially sustainable development, working collaboratively with gender and geographically balanced research networks; and to communicate research findings and evidence-based recommendations in order to inform development thinking, policy and practice—the new logframe represents some evolution in how the Overall Objective and Specific Objectives are expressed, as well as in the selection of some indicators.

The Institute’s overall objective is to contribute to a better understanding of and greater pluralism in transformative policies, practices and approaches to social development; to contribute evidence, analysis, ideas and strategies—co-produced with its research networks and relevant stakeholders—that can shape debates, policy formulation and practices that reduce inequalities and foster more equitable, inclusive and sustainable development outcomes.

In order to achieve this objective, UNRISD defined five Specific objectives for the period relating to research and capacity building; networking and communications; and resource mobilization and governance:

- Specific objective 1: Produce evidence, analysis, knowledge and ideas that put social dimensions at the centre of sustainable development.
- Specific objective 2: Contribute to the capacity development of Southern researchers to carry out interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of sustainable development issues through co-design of research methods and a mutual learning approach.
- Specific objective 3: Inform and influence the norms, policies and practices of sustainable development.
- Specific objective 4: Convene and catalyse knowledge-sharing, interdisciplinary engagement and constructive debate.
- Specific objective 5: Secure institutional and financial stability, predictability and sustainability through resource mobilization and effective governance.

Please contact UNRISD if you have further questions about our RBM Logframe.