

Sustainable Development and the progress in Conflict-Affected Countries

Division for Sustainable Development

**Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations**



OBJECTIVE

- Sustainable Development and the progress in Conflict-Affected Countries
- Introduce DESA 3-YEAR development account project “Strengthening national capacity for the integration of sustainable development principles into development strategies in countries emerging from conflict”
- Overview the projects work plan and activities



Sustainable Development

- “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”
 - SD came to the forefront of public interest in 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro (the Earth Summit)
 - SD continued to develop with major landmarks such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 and the 2005 World Summit.
 - SD to receive renewed political commitment during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20) in 2012

RIO Guidelines

What does sustainable development mean?

- Integration
- Bridge between environment and development
- Inter and Intra -generational equity
- Global partnership with 'common but differentiated responsibilities'
- Poverty eradication
- Reduction and elimination of unsustainable patterns of production and consumption
- Participation in decision-making
- Access to information



Sustainable Development Objectives

- **Economic development:**

- refers to the well being of the people and eradication of poverty.

- **Social equity:**

- access to basic needs such as health, education; human security and rights; gender equity; and distribution of benefits and access to resources across the society.

- **Environmental conservation:**

- concerns with conservation of natural resources and minimizing impacts on physical and biological resources.

Social

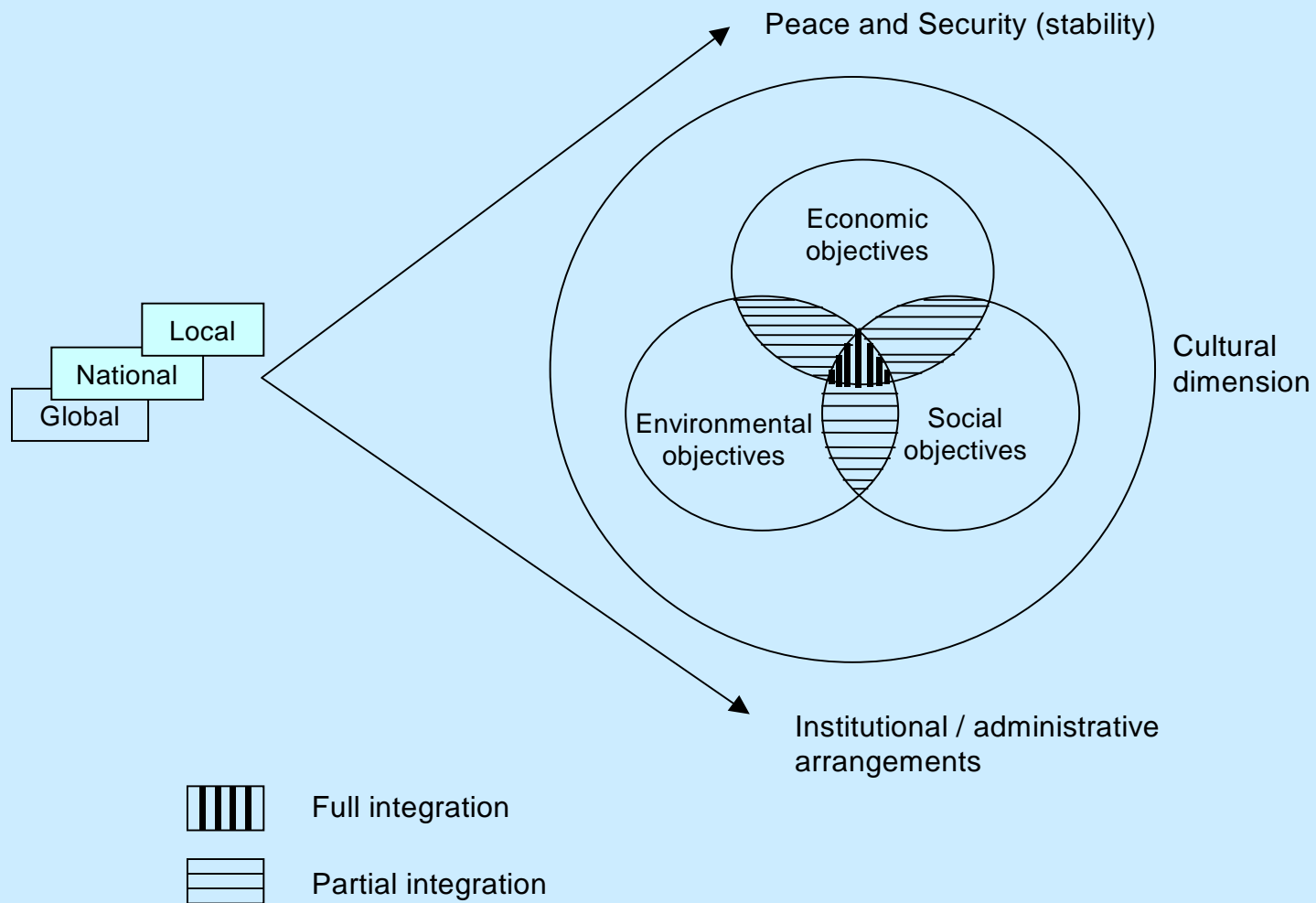
Economic

**Sustainable
Development**

Environmental



Global Development
Environment Institute. 1016.



Sustainable development will entail integration of objectives where possible; and making trade offs between objectives where integration is not possible

FIGURE 1: SYSTEMS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Source: IIED 2002

CSD Indicators of Sustainable Development

The CSD indicators are organized in
15 themes :

- ◆ Poverty
- ◆ Governance
- ◆ Health
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Demographics
- ◆ Atmosphere
- ◆ Land
- ◆ Oceans, seas, coasts
- ◆ Freshwater
- ◆ Biodiversity
- ◆ Economic Development
- ◆ Natural hazards
- ◆ Global partnership
- ◆ Consumption and production patterns

CSD Indicators of Sustainable Development: Sample indicators

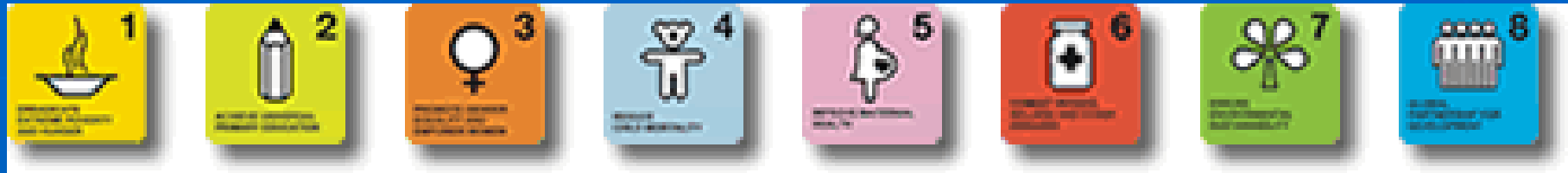
Theme	Sub-theme	Core indicator	Other indicator
Poverty	Sanitation	Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility	
Oceans, seas and coasts	Coastal zone	Percentage of total population living in coastal areas	Bathing water quality
Land	Forests	Proportion of land covered by forests	Area under sustainable forest management

Nexus between peace, security and development.

- Peace enhances development opportunities while development can help prevent conflicts and reinforce peace and security.
- Countries that have experienced violent conflicts in the recent past are among the most vulnerable countries and face bigger challenges in meeting the targets than other developing countries.



Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)



- Status of MDGs in countries emerging from conflict:
 - *“of the 34 poor countries farthest from reaching the MDGs, 22 (65%) are in, or emerging from conflict [1].”*
- *Number of policy briefs on security and development including Fitz-Gerald, A.M. (2004). ‘Addressing the Security-Development Nexus: Implications for Joined-Up Government.’*



Sustainable Development in Conflict-Affected Countries

- Two out of ten post-conflict countries in Africa and two out of ten post-conflict countries in Asia and the Pacific are taking a Sustainable Development approach in their comprehensive development frameworks.
 - DESA/DSD. Mapping of Sustainable Development Strategies in Countries Emerging from Conflict: Africa. 2009
 - DESA/DSD. Mapping of Sustainable Development Strategies in Countries Emerging from Conflict: Asia and the Pacific. 2009



Challenges to Application of Sustainable Development Principles in Post Conflict Countries

Challenge 1: Fight poverty and inequality.

Challenge 2: Manage natural resources sustainable and equitable.

Challenge 3: Built legitimacy for state institutions by providing security and functioning systems of law and justice.

Challenge 4: Build trust between social groups.

Challenge 5: Build capacity and fight corruption.

Challenge 6: Create inclusive economic growth and employment, and provide a minimum of public services.

Challenge 7: Address and mitigate regional or external risks.



NSDS DEFINITION

A coordinated, participatory and iterative process to achieve economic, environmental and social objectives in a balanced and integrated manner



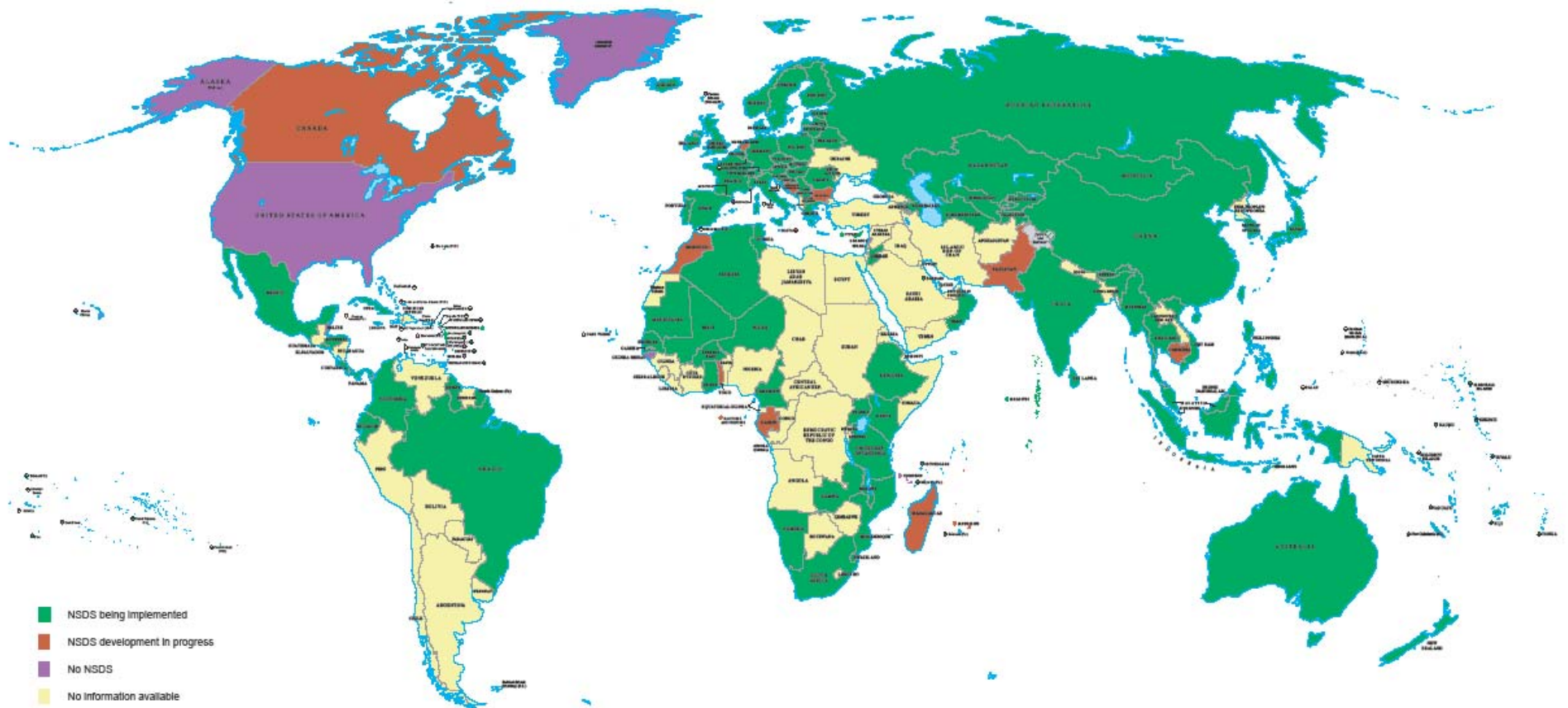
The formulation and implementation process is a cyclical and interactive process of planning, participation and action, in which the emphasis is on managing progress towards sustainability goals, rather than producing a “plan” as an end product.

Locating the NSDS

- It is not a fixed plan, but a strategic management approach that would ideally serve as an umbrella for all strategic planning.



National sustainable development strategies: The global picture 2010



The map tracks progress towards the WSSD (2002) target for countries to formulate and begin implementation of national sustainable development strategies by 2005. The map is updated on a regular basis. We encourage Governments to submit new information or advise us of corrections through dad@un.org.

Last update: 4/15/2010

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or any area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

* Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Cross-hatch with the colours used for Jammu & Kashmir (neutral colour) and China.

NSDS – The Global Picture

As of 2010:

- The global map demonstrates substantial variations across regions:
 - Africa:
 - 55% have reported their status
 - 40% were implementing an NSDS.
 - Asia:
 - 64% have reported their status
 - 57% were implementing an NSDS.
 - Europe
 - 88% have reported their status
 - 77% were implementing an NSDS.

NSDS in Liberia

A National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) in Liberia will seek to address the dual challenge of sustaining development and building peace in the post-conflict context by integrating the social, economic and environmental objectives of the Government of Liberia in one synergistic, integrated and holistic strategy.



Locating the NSDS in Liberia

- A NSDS is not a new process. It's aim is to build off of previously or currently existing strategies, processes and initiatives, but identifying what currently exists, highlighting the gaps, and then improving and coordinating them better.



Locating the NSDS in Liberia

- The NSDS will build off:
 - iPRS 2006 – 2008
 - PRS 2008 – 2011,
- will be fully in line with Liberian National Vision 2030.
- Upgrade the upcoming PRSII to be Conflict-Sensitive NSDS



DESA/DSD Development Account Project

- Part of the effort to improve capacities of countries emerging from conflict to integrate sustainable development principles into development strategies and, thereby, to increase the likelihood of sustainable peace



The Development Account

- Capacity development programme of the United Nations Secretariat (Regular Budget) aiming at enhancing capacities of developing countries in the priority areas of the United Nations Development Agenda.

Project Objectives

- Objective I:
 - Producing methodologies (scalable toolkit) based on National Sustainable Development Strategies guidelines that explain and illustrate ways to integrate sustainable development principles into national development strategies as part of peace-building



Project Objectives, CONTD.

- Objective II:
 - Increasing national capacities to utilize sustainable development principles in policy-making in conflict-affected countries.



Project Activities (1)

- To achieve Objective I “Producing methodologies and scalable toolkit” :
 - Convene expert group meeting (EGM) to bring leading experts, within and outside the UN-system, in NSDS and sustainable development planning
 - Establish expert advisory group to guide key elements of project implementation
 - Map current NSDS approach in comprehensive development frameworks in use in Africa and Asia and the Pacific
 - Map existing methodologies and tools and identify gaps
 - Conduct national assessment and consultation missions
 - Create guidance notes and a scalable toolkit of appropriate yet flexible methodologies and make accessible



Project Activities (2)

- To achieve Objective II “capacity building”:
 - Test tools and implement methodologies in Pilot Countries according to national circumstances and priorities
 - Conduct national workshops (one in each participating Pilot country in Africa, Asia and the Pacific.
 - Provide access and integrate methodological materials in toolkit for training in NSDS development, monitoring and assessment in all training and capacity building activities
 - Conduct two regional workshops (one in Africa and one in Asia and the Pacific)
 - Conduct national interventions in the participating countries (*Such as working group meetings, stakeholder consultations or other strategically targeted activities*).



Indicators

- Increased availability of toolkits that explain and illustrate ways for integrating sustainable development
- Increased number of trained participating government officials with direct involvement in the national development planning process
- Increased number of post-conflict countries that report progress in the development and implementation of strategies and development processes that include sustainable development principles



Project Timelines 2009-2011

- Current timeline:
 - Objective I: Creation of guidance notes and a scalable toolkits
 - Jan 2009 to Dec 2010
 - Objective II: Capacity development in 3 pilot countries :
 - July 2010- June 2012
- Pilot Countries
 - Liberia from Africa
 - Lebanon from West Asia
 - Nepal from Asia-Pacific



Project Website

- http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_nsds/issues.shtml



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DSD promotes sustainable development as the substantive secretariat to the CSD and through technical cooperation and capacity-building at the international, regional and national levels.

The achievement of sustainable development requires the integration of its economic, environmental and social components at all levels. This is facilitated by continuous dialogue and action in global partnership, focusing on key sustainable development issues

Commission on Sustainable Development, CSD-19

- All delegations are requested to send their statements for the Commission on Sustainable Development, CSD-19, in electronic format to dsd@un.org
- [Secretary-General reports for the IPM and CSD 19.](#)
- [Organization of Work](#)
- [Report of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting *New*](#)
- [Registration Schedule for Major Groups & Member States *New*](#)
- [More information on CSD-19](#)

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20

Follow the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20

More information at www.unccd2012.org



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DSD-Databases & UN-ODS

- News** | **Events** | **Publications** | **CSDNews**
- (archive news)
- [Call for Papers for a Special Issue on Institutions for Sustainable Development, Deadline for submission: 15 July 2011](#)
- [Natural Resources Forum: Volume 35, Issue 2](#)
- [UN agency highlights potential of jatropha plant as energy source for the poor](#)



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Home | About | **Areas of Work** | CSD | SD Topics | Resources | News/Media

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in Alphabetical order:

- Climate Change
- Energy
- Finance
- Indicators
- Major Groups
- National Information
- NSDS
- Partnerships
- SD21
- SDKP
- SIDS
- SCP & the Marrakech Process
- Sustainable Development Topics
- Technical Cooperation
- Technology
- UN Inter-agency Coordination
- Water

Areas of Work (Main Page)

Areas of Work

Facilitating Participation

- Major Groups

Facilitating Implementation

- Finance
- Indicators of Sustainable Development
- National Information
- NSDS: National Sustainable Development Strategies
- Partnerships for Sustainable Development
- SD21: Sustainable Development in the 21st century
- SDKP: Sustainable Development Knowledge Partnership
- SIDS: Small Island Developing States
- Technical Cooperation (& Capacity Building)
- Technology

Enhancing Coordination

- UN Inter-agency Coordination

Topics in Focus

- Climate Change
- Energy
- SIDS: Small Island Developing States
- SCP: Sustainable Consumption & Production Patterns (& the Marrakech Process)
- Water

♦ [A list of Sustainable Development Topics >](#)



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- NSDS
- Intergovernmental Decisions
- Global Map
- Climate Change & NSDS
- NSDS in Post Conflict Countries
- Shared Learning & Review
- Technical Cooperation
- Meetings & Workshops
- Publications
- Links
- Contact Us

Areas of Work > NSDS

National Sustainable Development Strategies

- ✦ In 2009, 106 Member States of the UN were implementing an NSDS, as per their reporting to the CSD or its Secretariat ([see map](#))
- ✦ [Click here to search for country submissions of NSDS profiles](#)

Background Information

Chapter 8 of Agenda 21 calls on countries to adopt national strategies for sustainable development (NSDS) that should build upon and harmonize the various sectoral economic, social and environmental policies and plans that are operating in the country.

Five years later, the 1997 Special Session of the General Assembly again noted the importance of NSDS and set a target of 2002 for their formulation and elaboration.

In 2002, the [World Summit for Sustainable Development \(WSSD\)](#) urged States not only to take immediate steps to make progress in the formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development but also to begin their implementation by 2005.

In addition, integrating the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes is one of the targets contained in the [United Nations Millennium Declaration](#) to reach the goal of environmental sustainability.

Governments have continued to reiterate their commitment to develop and implement NSDS at subsequent CSD sessions.

Related Areas of Work

- ✦ [Indicators](#)
- ✦ [National Information](#)

http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_nsds/issues.shtml

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Links
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Strengthening national capacity for the integration of sustainable development principles into development strategies in countries emerging from conflict

Background Information

DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT PROJECT (ROA 105) aims to provide support to countries emerging from conflict in integrating sustainable development principles into comprehensive national strategies and development plans by utilizing established knowledge and experience in developing and implementing Conflict-Sensitive NSDS, while developing additional tools to address impediments, such as lack of appropriate institutional structures, lack of influence of central authorities over large parts of the country and society, scarcity of relevant and high-quality data and information necessary to support evidence-based policy making and prioritization, and mechanisms for monitoring strategy implementation

The main project objectives are to:

- Increase the capacity to utilize sustainable development principles in policy-making in countries emerging from conflict by creating guidelines for conflict-sensitive NSDS and testing them in pilot/selected countries; and
- Produce methodologies (scalable toolkit) that explain and illustrate ways to integrate sustainable development principles into national development strategies as part of peacebuilding processes.
- Create regional awareness, build capacity and facilitate networking regionally, with the intention of sensitizing countries to incorporate sustainable development principles into their own development planning.

Project main tasks and activities:

Project activities are focused on adapting and developing methodologies related to the process, content, implementation and monitoring of sustainable development strategies, testing their applicability and making them available to all interested countries.

DSD has completed the following major activities under this project:

1. Development of three major studies and reports that lay the background and analytical foundation for the project implementation:
 - [Mapping of Sustainable Development Strategies in Countries Emerging from Conflict: Africa.](#)
 - [Mapping of Sustainable Development Strategies in Countries Emerging from Conflict: Asia and the Pacific.](#)
 - [Analysis of the challenges unique to countries emerging from conflict and the critical gaps in the area of comprehensive development planning in the post-conflict context.](#)

Held Expert Group Meeting (EGM) for project in UNON-Nairobi, Kenya in November 2009, which

Related Areas of Work

- ◆ [Indicators](#)
- ◆ [National Information](#)

Internet 100%

Thank You

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<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/index.html>

