



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM JUNIOR

Study Guide

Agenda: Deliberation upon the attainment of the 2030 agenda with regards to the Sustainable Development Goal 11.

ANNUAL WORLD SUMMIT 2024

INDEX

- 1. Letter from the Executive Board**
- 2. Introduction**
- 3. What does UNDP do?**
- 4. Introduction to the Agenda**
- 5. Sustainable Development goal 11**
- 6. Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development**
- 7. Preserving Heritage Sites**
- 8. QARMA**
- 9. Bibliography**



Letter from the Executive Board

Dear Delegates,

“Little by little, family by family, so much good can be done on so many levels.” -Elinor Ostrom

Welcome to the Annual World Summit 2024!

The executive board of UNDP is delighted to have you as part of our committee in the Annual World Summit 2024. It is a pleasure to announce that the delegates taking part in the Annual World Summit this year will experience its brilliance offline. The Annual World Summit is an exceptional platform to showcase your talent for both beginners and seasoned debaters.

At any given time, there are always 2 countries which are raging a war or are on the verge of having one. Peace has now become essential in today's time where everyone is constantly at war and fulfilling their country's desires. It creates an environment in which people can pursue their goals, dreams, and ambitions without the constant threat of danger. This contributes to better mental and physical health, higher levels of happiness, and greater overall well-being.

Hence our agenda for UNDP this year is “Deliberation upon the attainment of the 2030 Agenda with regards to the Sustainable Development Goal 11”, focusing on exploring the future of the improvement of women's rights, green investment, economic conditions and migration due to war.



Letter from the Executive Board

We strongly encourage you to go through the study guide that has been prepared for you as a part of the conference in order to get an in-depth understanding of the issue that will be discussed in the committee. You are expected to research, collate, list down possible points of discussions, questions and plausible responses and be prepared to enjoy the intellectual energy in the group.

We anticipate that the delegates will approach the conference in a professional, cooperative, and diplomatic manner. They ought to be well-prepared, having done extensive study on their assigned topics and have a good understanding of the status of their nation.

We look forward to productive interactions with other delegates, active involvement in committee meetings, and a willingness to compromise and bargain in order to come to an agreement on important international matters. We also anticipate that delegates will show a dedication to sustaining UN ideals and values, as well as a respect for diplomatic decorum and procedural standards. In general, we anticipate that delegates will actively participate in the talks, represent their nation's interests while also prioritizing the greater good first, and endeavor to develop creative and practical answers to the problems at hand.

We invite you to: Come, see, conquer!

Yours faithfully,

The UNDP Executive Board

Chairperson: Vir Dhairyawan

Vice-Chairperson: Danya Parekh

Moderator: Senaine Khan

Introduction

The United Nations Development Programme was established in 1965 by the General Assembly Resolution 2029 (XX) as a merger of two previous programmes, namely the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the United Nations Special Fund. It took up its work on 1 January 1966. The UNDP is responsible for the coordination of development activities on the country level. It carries out a dual role as a deliverer of programming and country office coordinator.

Since the establishment of the United Nation Millennium Development Goals in 2000, UNDP is also responsible for monitoring and reporting the progress made in achieving the goals on the country level. So far, over 400 national reports have been conducted and published.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) plays the central role in the development activities of the United Nations and coordinates efforts for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

It is active in 170 countries where it helps nations to implement democracy and good governance, to reduce poverty, to prevent crises and conflicts, protect the environment and to fight HIV/AIDS. The activities of the UNDP attach great importance to the protection of human rights, the empowerment of women and minorities and the inclusion of the poorest and most vulnerable.

Introduction

Each year, UNDP publishes the Human Development Report which broaches the key development issues and provides new measurement tools, analyses and policy proposals. The Administrator of the UNDP, Helen Clark, is also chair of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) which unites all 32 UN funds, programs, agencies, departments and offices engaged in development work. The UNDP is therefore also involved in realizing reforms within the UN system. Furthermore, the UNDP is also responsible for the UN Capital Development Fund that provides capital through grants and loans to developing countries in order to help economic growth. It also coordinates the 6,000 UN Volunteers that support peace and development throughout the world.

What does the UNDP do?

UNDP's mandate is to help countries build and share solutions in four main areas: Poverty Reduction and Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), Democratic Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, Environment and Energy for Sustainable Development. While carrying out all its activities, UNDP protects human rights, empowers women, minorities and the poorest, most vulnerable people in society. Voluntary contributions from member states are used to fund all the activities of the UNDP in 177 countries. Just like other UN agencies, UNDP has enlisted the voluntary services of quite a few prominent individuals as Goodwill Ambassadors to highlight its causes. They use their fame to amplify the urgent and universal message of human development and the need for countries to cooperate in solving global matters. Their activities have also been extremely helpful in the quest to achieve the MDGs.

It is believed that the perspectives of the UNDP in the future are incredibly great. UNDP will continue to work towards making this planet a better place, as it continues to propagate its principles. It believes that collaboration should be at the heart of the climate change question, breaking the corruption chain is a collective responsibility, meaningful reduction in disaster risk requires borderless efforts, and inspiring innovation to meet development challenges is crucial.

What does the UNDP do?

In the past ten years, UNDP has worked with national governments in 112 countries, including 50 countries at high risk for disasters, to formulate and implement disaster reduction policies and support recovery activities. UNDP programmes have aimed to strengthen national capacity to prevent as well as respond to natural disasters. In its recovery support, UNDP has focused largely on restoring normalcy following crises for an effective transition to development, using recovery work as an opportunity to 'build back better'. Such efforts have concentrated on strengthening governance structures and policies for better disaster risk management and response.

To meet the objectives of the Strategic Plan in line with the 2030 Agenda, UNDP is implementing six cross-cutting approaches to development, known as Signature Solutions. A strong, integrated way of putting our best work, or 'distinctive' skill set, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2030 SDGs Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. It recognizes that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

Introduction to the Agenda

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. The UN recognises that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan.

The UN is resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and wants to heal and secure our planet. The UN is determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. As they embark on this collective journey, they pledge that no one will be left behind. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next fifteen years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet:

Introduction to the Agenda

People- The UN is determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfill their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

Planet- The UN is determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

Prosperity- The UN is determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

Peace- The UN is determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

Partnership- The UN is determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.

Sustainable Development Goal 11:

More than half of us live in cities. By 2050, two-thirds of all humanity—6.5 billion people—will be urban. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces. The rapid growth of cities—a result of rising populations and increasing migration—has led to a boom in mega-cities, especially in the developing world, and slums are becoming a more significant feature of urban life. Making cities sustainable means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies. It involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in participatory and inclusive ways.

Goal Targets:

- By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.
- By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.
- By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.

Sustainable Development Goal 11

- **By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.**
- **By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.**
- **By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.**
- **Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.**
- **By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.**
- **Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials**

Sustainable Development Goal 11

- Some important statistics:
- In 2018, 4.2 billion people, 55 percent of the world's population, lived in cities. By 2050, the urban population is expected to reach 6.5 billion.
- Cities occupy just 3 percent of the Earth's land but account for 60 to 80 percent of energy consumption and at least 70 percent of carbon emissions.
- 828 million people are estimated to live in slums, and the number is rising.
- In 1990, there were 10 cities with 10 million people or more; by 2014, the number of mega-cities rose to 28, and was expected to reach 33 by 2018.
- In the coming decades, 90 percent of urban expansion will be in the developing world. The economic role of cities is significant, they generate about 80 percent of the global GDP.

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

In theory, urban planning is the process of developing strategies intended to both revitalize and enhance an existing urban area and to initiate new urbanization within a certain area. Urban planning is a discipline and an approach that addresses the processes of creating, organizing, and using urban space. Its primary goal is to highlight actions that should be done to raise the standard of living for the locals in areas like transportation, security, access to opportunities, and even contact with the environment. Urban planning is therefore crucial in the current context, where there is much discussion about the future of cities and the aspirations of sustainability and mobility as a way to combat climate change. It deals with issues arising from urbanization, such as pollution, traffic jams, urban voids, and ecological impacts.

A nation's infrastructure is its collection of buildings and systems that support its economic development. It comprises the amenities and services needed for industrialization, economic growth, better living standards, and thriving enterprises. Large-scale public and private sector infrastructure projects that strengthen a society's economy include building roads, railroads, bridges, tunnels, water supplies, sewage systems, electrical grids, and telecommunications (including broadband access and Internet connectivity). These infrastructural facilities are made up of interconnected systems that support, uphold, or enhance the environment and society.

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

While infrastructure upgrades enable other systems, buildings, and services to flourish throughout time, infrastructure development sets the groundwork for their survival. It is imperative to explore in greater detail the complex relationships between infrastructure development, urban planning, and sustainable development in the discourse surrounding the 2030 Agenda and SDG 11. Urban planning is a holistic process that incorporates social, economic, and environmental factors into the structure of metropolitan areas, going beyond simple physical design. To guarantee fair development outcomes, this means promoting inclusive participation from a variety of stakeholders, including marginalized communities.

In addition, the idea of "smart cities" is becoming a major paradigm in urban planning, utilizing cutting-edge technologies to maximize environmental effect while maximizing efficiency, connectedness, and resilience. Conversely, infrastructure development encompasses 'green infrastructure' solutions that support ecological balance and lessen the impact of the urban heat island. Urban people's general quality of life is improved when nature-based solutions, such green roofs, permeable pavements, and urban green spaces, are adopted. These solutions also increase biodiversity and reduce climate change. Furthermore, promoting multimodal transportation networks that give priority to bike lanes, pedestrian-friendly streets, and effective public transportation systems is essential to infrastructure development since it lowers air pollution, carbon emissions, and traffic.

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

i. Infrastructure Development under SDG 11

Innovation and infrastructure spending are two key factors that propel economic progress. Since more than half of the world's population now resides in cities, the development of new industries, information and communication technology, and renewable energy sources are all becoming more and more crucial.

Finding long-term solutions to problems related to the economy and environment, like creating new jobs and boosting energy efficiency, also depends on technological advancement. Encouraging sustainable enterprises and allocating resources towards scientific research and innovation are crucial measures in enabling sustainable growth.

Ninety percent of those without Internet connection are in developing countries, making up over 4 billion people worldwide. It is imperative to close the digital divide in order to guarantee equitable access to knowledge and information, as well as foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

Goals:

- Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
- Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries.
- Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.
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- By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities
- Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
- Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

ii. Affordable and Clean Energy in Development under SDG 11

The percentage of individuals with electricity rose from 78 to 90 percent between 2000 and 2018, while the percentage of persons without electricity decreased to 789 million. However, as the population grows, so will the need for inexpensive energy, and a fossil fuel-based economy is causing significant alterations to our environment. Achieving SDG 7 by 2030 will need us to make investments in solar, wind, and thermal power, boost energy productivity, and guarantee energy for all.

Building new infrastructure and modernizing technologies to supply clean, more efficient energy to all nations will promote economic development and benefit the environment.

Goals:

- By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

iii. Life on Land in Sustainable Development

The land is just as essential to human life as the ocean for our sustenance and means of subsistence. Eighty percent of our food comes from plants, and agriculture is one of our main sources of income. In addition to making up 30% of the planet's surface, forests are essential for preventing climate change, provide homes for millions of species, and serving as major sources of clean water and air.

Thirteen million hectares of forests are lost year, and 3.6 billion hectares of drylands have become desertified as a result of ongoing degradation, with impoverished communities bearing a disproportionate share of this damage.

Even with 15% of area under protection, biodiversity is still under jeopardy. There have been over 7,000 animal and plant species traded illegally. In addition to destroying biodiversity, wildlife trafficking increases conflict, fosters corruption, and generates insecurity.

As part of our shared legacy, natural habitats and biodiversity must be preserved as soon as possible. This will promote global food and water security, peace and security, and the mitigation and adaptation of climate change.

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

Goals:

- By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.
- By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.
- By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.
- By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.
- Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed.
- Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products

Urban Planning and Infrastructure Development

- By 2030, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.
- By 2030, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts.
- Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation.
- Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities

Preserving Heritage Sites

UNDP recognizes that Cultural Heritage is central to individual and collective identity and memory, providing continuity between the past, present and future. Cultural Heritage reflects and expresses people's constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge, traditions and practices. It also serves a crucial role in sustainable development through enhancing social cohesion, diversity, well-being and the quality of life. UNDP seeks to ensure that Cultural Heritage is preserved, protected and promoted in project activities in a manner consistent with UNESCO Cultural Heritage conventions or any other national or international legal instruments that might have a bearing on the use of Cultural Heritage.

The objectives include: Protecting Cultural Heritage from damage, inappropriate alteration, disruption, removal or misuse, maintaining its authenticity and significance; Preserving and safeguarding Cultural Heritage for present and future generations; Promoting the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of Cultural Heritage; Promoting meaningful consultation with stakeholders regarding preservation and protection, utilization and management of Cultural Heritage.

The applicability of this Standard is established during the social and environmental screening and categorization process. The Standard applies to projects that may adversely impact Cultural Heritage, including projects located in or in the vicinity of a Cultural Heritage site, projects involving significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding, or other environmental changes, projects that propose to utilize tangible or intangible forms of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes. The requirements of this Standard apply to Cultural Heritage regardless of whether it has been legally protected or previously disturbed.

Preserving Heritage Sites

The term "Cultural Heritage" includes tangible and intangible heritage which may be recognized and valued at the local, regional, national, or global level.

Tangible Cultural Heritage includes moveable or immovable objects, sites, structures, groups of structures, human settlements and natural features and landscapes that have archaeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance.

Intangible Cultural Heritage, also referred to as living heritage, includes practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills—as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith—that communities/groups recognize as part of their Cultural Heritage which give them a sense of identity and tradition.

Requirements:

- **Avoidance, assessment and mitigation of adverse impacts:** UNDP projects seek to avoid supporting activities that may lead to significant adverse impacts to Cultural Heritage. UNDP considers potential direct, indirect, irreversible and cumulative risks and impacts to Cultural Heritage from project activities. Relevant projects implement globally recognized practices for field-study, inventorying, documentation, and protection of Cultural Heritage. Where avoidance is not possible—ensuring that all viable and feasible alternatives have been explored—UNDP minimizes potential impacts per the mitigation hierarchy and adopts appropriate mitigation measures. Where potential adverse impacts may be significant, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan should be developed as part of the overall Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP).

Preserving Heritage Sites



- **Chance find procedures:** UNDP projects ensure that chance find procedures are included in all plans and contracts regarding project-related construction.
- **Community participation, stakeholder consultations and use of experts:** For projects with potential adverse impacts, qualified and experienced Cultural Heritage experts and relevant stakeholders assist in the identification, documentation and appropriate management of potentially affected Cultural Heritage. Ensure meaningful, effective stakeholder consultations are undertaken, including with local and national regulatory authorities entrusted with the protection of Cultural Heritage.
- **Confidentiality and restricted access by communities:** Together with stakeholders UNDP projects determine whether disclosure of information regarding Cultural Heritage would compromise or jeopardize its safety or integrity or endanger sources of information. In such cases, sensitive information may be withheld from public disclosure.
- **Integration and use of Cultural Heritage:** UNDP projects engaging with Cultural Heritage ensure meaningful consultations with affected communities, informing them of their rights, project scope, and potential consequences. When supporting commercial use of Cultural Heritage, communities are informed of their rights and available options, including alternative livelihood development.
- **Intangible Cultural Heritage:** UNDP projects respect the dynamic nature of intangible Cultural Heritage, ensuring communities' rights to continue their practices. Meaningful participation is ensured in identifying risks and impacts, as well as determining mitigation measures. This includes all aspects of heritage management, from identification to revitalization.

Preserving Heritage Sites

Further provisions for specific types of cultural heritage:

UNDP projects in areas with evidence of past human activity require thorough research and field surveys to document archaeological remains. The discovered sites and materials are reported to Cultural Heritage authorities and relevant project stakeholders. In consultation with experts, projects determine whether documentation, excavation, or in situ conservation is needed. If preservation in situ isn't possible, transfer is done in consultation with affected communities and national partners, adhering to international standards. Ownership and custodial responsibilities are defined by UNDP, ensuring proper identification, conservation, labeling, storage, and accessibility until custody transfer.

UNDP projects address potential impacts on built heritage through appropriate mitigation measures such as documentation, conservation/rehabilitation in situ, or relocation/reconstruction with conservation/rehabilitation. Preservation in situ is preferred for most features, but if not possible, transfer is done in consultation with affected communities, following international standards. Rehabilitation maintains authenticity of form, materials, and techniques, adhering to laws and regulations. Projects also consider the impact of proposed infrastructure on the visual context of historic structures.

UNDP projects identify culturally significant landscapes and natural features through research and community consultation. Preservation in situ is preferred as these elements derive significance from their location and environmental context. Projects ensure the physical and visual integrity of landscapes by considering the impact of proposed activities, like infrastructure, within sight range. If relocation is necessary, it's done in consultation with affected communities, respecting traditional practices. This aligns with Standard 1 on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service maintenance.

Preserving Heritage Sites

UNDP projects include measures to guard against theft and illegal trafficking of movable Cultural Heritage (e.g. books, paintings, sculptures, costumes, jewelry, textiles) and artefacts stored and displayed in museums (or their equivalent) that are affected by project activities and notify relevant authorities if any such activity occurs. UNDP projects identify items that may be endangered and make provision for their protection throughout the project cycle. UNDP projects inform religious or secular authorities or other responsible Cultural Heritage custodians of project activities, schedule and alert them regarding potential vulnerability of movable Cultural Heritage items.

QARMA

(Questions a Resolution must Answer)

- Which regions or countries are lagging behind, and what are the primary challenges they face in achieving sustainable urbanization?
- How can national governments integrate SDG 11 targets into their urban planning and governance structures?
- What role can international cooperation and partnerships play in supporting the implementation of SDG 11 at the national and local levels?
- What steps can be taken to ensure equitable access to funding, particularly for developing countries and marginalized communities within urban areas?
- How can the voices of marginalized groups, including women, youth, and persons with disabilities, be incorporated into decision-making processes related to urban development?
- What mechanisms can be put in place to hold governments and other stakeholders accountable for their commitments to SDG 11?
- How can technology and digital innovation be harnessed to address urban challenges and promote inclusive, resilient cities?



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