



SRMUN Charlotte 2018
Global Interdependence and the Changing Role of the United Nations
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Esteemed Delegates,

I welcome you to SRMUN Charlotte 2018 and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). I am Emily Grasset and it is my distinct pleasure to serve as your Director for this stimulating and exciting committee. This is my third year participating at SRMUN and first year as a staff member. I have served on staff for other conferences throughout college and have competed in SRMUN conferences during all four years of my college tenure. I am a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where I received my Bachelor's degrees in Political Science and Philosophy. I am currently a paralegal at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld, LLP in Washington, D.C.

Serving as your Assistant Director for this committee is Lindsay Pendleton. This is Lindsay's second time on SRMUN staff, previously serving as Assistant Chief Justice of the International Court of Justice at SRMUN Charlotte 2017. Lindsay has served as a delegate at SRMUN conferences several times while studying at Guilford Technical Community College. He is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a concentration in Pre-Law.

The UNDP works to promote sustainable development, democratic institutions, and climate resilience. As the main UN body responsible for development, the UNDP releases the annual Human Development Report, noting the progress and areas for concern across the world. The spirit of the Millennium Development Goals lives on through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015.

Keeping in mind the mandate and pillars of the UN, the mission of UNDP, and the theme of SRMUN Charlotte 2018, we have chosen the following topics to discuss at this year's conference:

- I. Preserving Economic Development in Times of Internal Conflict
- II. Promoting Gender Equality to Enhance Economic Development

For SRMUN Charlotte 2018, the UNDP Executive Board (UNDP-EB) will be simulated. The UNDP is overseen by the UNDP-EB, comprising of 36 Member States elected by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to serve three-year terms. The UNDP-EB is responsible in implementing policy derived from the General Assembly (GA) but in "coordination and guidance" from ECOSOC, as well as receives, gives, and monitors the guidance of each UNDP programme and fund.

The background guide serves as a foundation for your research, however, it should not be utilized as a delegation's entire means for information on the above topics. Each individual topic is prepared in depth and it is expected that delegates research beyond the guide in preparation for their position paper as well as for the conference itself. Each delegation is required to submit a position paper no longer than two pages in length (single spaced), which should showcase your Member State's position, policies, and recommendations on each of the two topics. More information regarding formatting and examples for position papers can be found at srmun.org. **All position papers MUST be submitted no later than March 23, 2018 by 11:59 pm EST via the SRMUN website.**

Lindsay and I send you our warmest regards in your preparation for SRMUN Charlotte 2018 and we look forward to reviewing your position papers. Please feel free to contact Director-General Desiree Kennedy, Lindsay, or myself should you have any questions during your preparation for the conference.

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Committee History of the United Nations Development Programme

Officially created on 22 November 1965, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is an organization that seeks to address global economic and social development goals.¹ The UNDP became the United Nations' (UN) primary body that deals with the issue of world development, after the merger of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the UN Special Fund.² This merger ensued as part of a broad UN-wide project to "streamline activities...simplify organizational procedures...and increasing effectiveness" across the body.^{3,4} The first meeting of the UNDP occurred on 10 January 1966.⁵ Currently, the UNDP has personnel, consisting of both paid professionals and unpaid volunteers, in nearly 170 Member States to address issues of poverty and inequality.⁶

The UNDP organization is run by an Executive Board. The UNDP Executive Board is comprised of 36 Member States serving to guide and supervise the UNDP, the UN Population Fund, and the UN Office for Project Services.^{7,8} The Board, made up of representatives from the five major regions of the world, supervises and supports the activities of the UNDP to ensure that the organization properly addresses the development needs of all UN Member States.⁹ Seats on the Executive Board are allocated as follows: eight seats for African States, seven seats for the Asia-Pacific region, four seats for Eastern-European States, five seats for Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 12 seats for Western Europe and other States.¹⁰ At the beginning of each yearly session, the Executive Board elects a Bureau made up of a President and four Vice-Presidents; the Member State holding the Presidency rotates each year by region, allowing for diverse representation.¹¹ The agenda for each session is decided upon by the Executive Board, with special topics being added throughout the session at the Board's discretion.¹² Additionally, the Executive Board designates the distribution of UNDP funding.¹³

The UN currently designates a budget of USD 24.3 Billion between four development organizations within the body: UNDP, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Children's Fund, and UN-Women.¹⁴ The budget comes from the voluntary contributions of its Member States.¹⁵ During 2016, 63 percent of all contributions to UNDP were allocated by governments and Member States whose funds are meant for a specific project or region.¹⁶

¹ "History of the UNDP," Borgen Magazine, <http://www.borgenmagazine.com/the-history-of-the-undp/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ A/RES/20/29. *Consolidation of the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance in a United Nations Development Programme*. UN General Assembly. (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁵ "First Session of UNDP," United Nations, <http://web.undp.org/execbrd/archives/gcdecisions/UNDP%20GC%20Decisions%201st%20Session%20TEXT%20Jan%2066.pdf> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁶ "Funds, Programmes, Specialized Agencies and Others," United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/sections/about-un/funds-programmes-specialized-agencies-and-others/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁷ "Executive Board Overview," United Nations Development Programme, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/overview.html (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁸ "Information note about the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS," United Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/executive-board/information-note-on-the-executive-board.html> (accessed December 26, 2017).

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ "Members of the Executive Board," United Nations Development Programme, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/membership.html (accessed September 1, 2017).

¹¹ "Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, of the United Nations Population Fund and of the United Nations Office for Project Services (January 2011)," United Nations, http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Executive%20Board/Rules_of_Procedure_E.pdf (accessed September 1, 2017).

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ "UNDP Integrated budget estimates for 2014-2017," Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/corporate/Executive%20Board/2013/Second-regular-session/English/dp2013-41e.pdf> (accessed December 23, 2017).

¹⁵ "History of the UNDP," Borgen Magazine, <http://www.borgenmagazine.com/the-history-of-the-undp/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

¹⁶ "UNDP and Governments," United Nations Development Programme

In addition to these contributions, some Member States are making repeat donations to UNDP's regular resources in the form of unrestricted contributions, which allows UNDP "to allocate funds where they are needed most, respond flexibly to crisis, serve as the backbone of UN system coordination, and maintain the high standards of quality assurance and transparency..."¹⁷ Funds from governments and within the UN system are not the only financial sources for the UNDP. International Financial Institutions (IFIs), such as the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and World Bank, among others, are responsible for a significant allocation of "project-specific" funds.¹⁸ The private sector, global and location foundations, and civil society organizations' partnerships with the UNDP are also valuable assets to ensuring projects' success.¹⁹ In addition, the UNDP has appreciated volunteer services from public figures in various fields of work, known as Goodwill Ambassadors and Advocates, helping highlight important issues.²⁰

The UNDP's mission is to eliminate poverty and reduce all forms of inequality.²¹ General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/1 provided a specific framework, known as the 2030 Agenda, for tackling issues such as sustainable management of global resources, inter-cultural understanding, inclusive economic development and more.²² The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development put forth a plan of action, expressed through the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for eradicating poverty and ensuring prosperity while conserving environmental resources for future generations.²³ As the UN's primary development agency, the UNDP is heavily involved in helping to implement the SDGs, but is more engaged in several specific goals.²⁴ The first SDG, and the underlying goal behind all of UNDP's work, is to reduce poverty across the world.²⁵ To move towards this goal, the body conducts its business through a multi-faceted approach that includes assisting governments in implementing anti-poverty policies, creating plans for social protection, promoting economic development by aiding businesses and agriculture, setting up local development centers, assisting in resource management, and more.²⁶ Each Member State faces unique challenges and having a variety of solutions makes the UNDP's approach to eliminating poverty dynamic, yet targeted.

Another SDG prioritized by the UNDP is ensuring healthy lives and wellbeing at all ages.²⁷ To achieve this, the UNDP is working to end all epidemics, implement universal health care, and provide access to safe and affordable medicines.²⁸ Additionally, UNDP focuses on establishing gender equality and empowering all women and girls.²⁹ This goal targets a wide variety of issues, ranging from ending gender-based violence, to addressing health issues

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/partners/governments.html> (accessed January 15, 2018).

¹⁷ "Contributors to Regular Resources," United Nations Development Programme

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/funding/core-donors.html> (accessed January 15, 2018).

¹⁸ "UNDP: Our Partners," The United Nations Development Programme,

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/partners.html> (accessed January 17, 2018).

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ "UNDP Strategic Plan: 2014-2017," United Nations Development Programme,

http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/corporate/Changing_with_the_World_UNDP_Strategic_Plan_2014_17.html (accessed September 1, 2017).

²² "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," United Nations,

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld> (accessed September 1, 2017).

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," United Nations Development Programme Partnership with the Global Fund,

<http://www.undp-globalfund-capacitydevelopment.org/en/about-us/sustainable-development-goals/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ "Sustainable Development Goal 1," United Nations Division for Sustainable Development,

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg1> (accessed September 1, 2017).

²⁷ "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," United Nations Development Programme Partnership with the Global Fund,

<http://www.undp-globalfund-capacitydevelopment.org/en/about-us/sustainable-development-goals/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

²⁸ "Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being," United Nations Development Programme,

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-3-good-health-and-well-being.html> (accessed September 1, 2017).

²⁹ "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," United Nations Development Programme Partnership with the Global Fund,

<http://www.undp-globalfund-capacitydevelopment.org/en/about-us/sustainable-development-goals/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

such as maternal mortality and access to reproductive health services.³⁰ Lastly, Goal 17 of the SDGs focuses on bringing the global community together to address development challenges worldwide.³¹ While this is economically focused, this goal encourages private-public partnerships as a way to promote and achieve sustainable development across the globe. By finding common values and goals between public and private entities, the UNDP fosters development in critical economic sectors.³² UNDP is also responsible for submitting an annual report to the Economic and Social Council, where recommendations are then passed on to the General Assembly can be made as well as progress reports about ongoing projects.³³ Overall, the current goal of the UNDP is to promote global economic, social, and environmental development using the framework of the 2030 Agenda.³⁴

Furthermore, the UNDP responds to global humanitarian crises in a rapid and deliberate way.³⁵ Since 2009, the UNDP has deployed nearly 2,000 experts to respond to various crises across the globe.³⁶ Some of the crises that the UNDP is currently focusing on are the ongoing conflicts in South Sudan, the Boko Haram insurgency and its effect in Northeast Nigeria, and armed conflict in Yemen.³⁷ Along with work on the SDGs, crisis response is an integral part of the work of the UNDP to help communities return to normality and become resistant to future crises.³⁸

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² “Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/globalpartnerships/> (accessed December 26, 2017).

³³ “Information note about the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS,” United Nations Development Programme, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/executive_board/information_noteontheexecutiveboard.html (accessed September 1, 2017).

³⁴ “About Us,” United Nations Development Programme, http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/about_us.html (accessed September 1, 2017).

³⁵ “Crisis Response,” United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/crisis-response.html> (accessed September 1, 2017).

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ “Crisis Response,” United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/crisis-response.html> (accessed September 1, 2017).

I. Preserving Economic Development in Times of Internal Conflict

Introduction

One of the primary missions of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is to promote and sustain development in all states at all times, even during times of conflict.³⁹ One of the ways in which the UNDP contributed to this effort was by focusing on the initiatives within the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The eight MDGs encompass economic, healthcare, and environmental components of the many issues associated with and contributing to global poverty.⁴⁰ Although the target date for achieving the MDGs was 2015, the goal of eradicating world poverty has yet to be met.⁴¹ Building upon the success achieved through the 15-year global commitment to the MDGs, the UN created the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).⁴² The focus of this second chapter of global growth is to “end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all.”⁴³ As the main development body of the UN, it is the UNDP’s mission to ensure that the global community achieves the SDGs.

Conflict has been shown to contribute immensely to the lack or regression of development.⁴⁴ “One of the lessons from the MDGs was that conflict severely diminished the likelihood that their goals and targets would be met... Indeed of the seven countries that had failed to reach a single one of the MDGs by 2014, six were classed as fragile states. In recognition of this, Goal 16 of the new SDGs is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.”⁴⁵ The UNDP has worked on conflict prevention while promoting peacebuilding for social cohesion, inclusive communities, and the ability for a society to withstand future external and internal issues.⁴⁶ The UNDP does not act alone in peacebuilding and conflict prevention efforts; instead it recommends that governments and key actors to build dialogue and mechanisms towards conflict prevention and sustainable development.^{47 48}

History

Simply stated, conflict occurs when two or more parties are in a clash for a common goal. Conflict can be civil and lead to a productive end for local society, however, there are many which are violent. Over 53 violent internal conflicts in the 1990s lead to an estimated 3.6 million deaths, many of which were civilians that were productive members of society.⁴⁹ As an UNDP report states, “Conflict occurs in many different spheres, whether political, social, economic, between individuals, groups or states, and at different levels from the personal to the global.”⁵⁰ The greatest concerns are the violent conflicts that lead to long term destruction of society and local economies. As researchers from Stockholm International Peace Research Institute explained, “armed conflict often leads to forced migration, long-term refugee problems, and the destruction of infrastructure. Social, political, and economic

³⁹ “History of the UNDP,” Borgen Magazine, <http://www.borgenmagazine.com/the-history-of-the-undp/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁴⁰ “Millennium Development Fund,” Millennium Development Goals, <http://www.mdgfund.org/node/922> (accessed November 19, 2017).

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² “Sustainable Development Goals: 17 Goals to Transform our World,” United Nations, <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals> (accessed November 19, 2017).

⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴ “Impact of Conflict,” World Bank, February 2007, <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/PSGLP/Resources/ImpactofConflict.pdf> (accessed November 19, 2017).

⁴⁵ “The Toxic Remnants of War,” The Toxic Remnants of War Project, February 2017,

<http://www.toxicremnantsofwar.info/armed-conflict-environmental-protection-and-the-sustainable-development-goals/> (accessed January 22, 2018).

⁴⁶ “Conflict prevention and peacebuilding,” The United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/democratic-governance-and-peacebuilding/conflict-prevention-and-peacebuilding/> (accessed January 17, 2018).

⁴⁷ Ibid.

⁴⁸ “Sustainable Development Goal 16,” Sustainable Development, <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg16> (accessed January 17, 2018)

⁴⁹ “NHDR Occasional Paper 3. Conflict Prevention Thematic Guidance Note” The United Nations Development Programme. Human Development Report Office. http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/nhdr_conflict_gn.pdf (accessed January 31, 2018).

⁵⁰ Ibid.

institutions can be permanently damaged. The consequences of war, especially civil war, for development are profound.”⁵¹ The immediate impact of internal conflict reduces the ability for trade within and around the affected zone.⁵² Furthermore, the conflict area can see long-term impacts years after the conflict ceases due to “the additional burden of death and disability caused by the lingering effects of civil war.”⁵³ It is estimated that long-term effects of civil conflict are “nearly double the immediate and direct effects” of civil conflict.⁵⁴ One explanation for this is the further exposure to disease, inability to access proper medical care, and the destruction of health infrastructure.⁵⁵

Per capita, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a State experiencing internal conflict decreased by 2.2 percent annually when compared to times of peace.⁵⁶ When factoring in that an average internal conflict lasts seven years, the decline of GDP results in incomes 15 percent less than they would have been without conflict.⁵⁷ An element the UNDP promotes for crisis prevention and recovery is putting in place institutions and systems promoting justice, security, and ensure “a smooth transition to normality.”⁵⁸ This element can reduce the long-term risk of a reigniting a crisis and economic growth.⁵⁹

Current Situation – South Asia and South Sudan

In December 2015, it was reported by *U.S. News* that the conflict in South Sudan could cost the Member State USD 22.3 Billion over five years.⁶⁰ The war began in December 2013, and, to this day, few believe that an end is in sight.⁶¹ This estimate combines costs from a macroeconomic perspective (i.e. the loss of potential income), taking into consideration all financial costs (i.e. direct cost of maintaining a military, security spending, etc.), and includes the public and social costs (i.e. informal economic effects and social disruption).⁶² The study, released by the Frontier Economics and the Center for Conflict Resolution and the Centre for Peace and Development Studies at Juba University, found that if the war endured for five years, the GDP of South Sudan would decrease by USD 6 Billion because of the “effects of hunger on labour productivity” alone.⁶³ On a regional scale, had the South Sudanese conflict been resolved within its first year, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda, would have

⁵¹ Scott Gates, Håvard Hegre, Håvard Mokleiv Nygård and Håvard Strand, “The consequences of internal armed conflict for development (part 1),” Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, March 2015 <http://www.sipri.org/commentary/blog/2015/consequences-internal-armed-conflict-development-part-1> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Ghobarah, Hazem Adam, “Civil Wars Kill and Maim People-Long after the Shooting Stops.” *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 97, No. 2, (May, 2003), pp. 189-202. http://www.uky.edu/~clthyn2/PS439G/readings/ghobarah_et_al_2003.pdf (Accessed January 12, 2018).

⁵⁵ Scott Gates, Håvard Hegre, Håvard Mokleiv Nygård and Håvard Strand, “The consequences of internal armed conflict for development (part 1),” Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, March 2015 <https://www.sipri.org/commentary/blog/2015/consequences-internal-armed-conflict-development-part-1> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁵⁶ Collier, Paul. “Doing Well Out of War,” The World Bank Group. <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTKNOWLEDGEFORCHANGE/Resources/491519-1199818447826/28137.pdf> (Accessed January 12, 2018).

⁵⁷ Daniel Bagwitz, et. al. “Economic Development in conflict-affected countries: Practitioner’s Notes” Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and The Multi-Donor Investment Climate Advisory Service of the World Bank Group, 2008 <https://www.enterprise-development.org/wp-content/uploads/FIAS-GTZ-2008.pdf> (accessed December 26, 2017).

⁵⁸ *Preventing Crisis Enabling Recovery*. The United Nations Development Programme. September 2013. http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/crisis%20prevention/BCPR_isuu-sm.pdf (accessed January 17, 2018).

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Teresa Welsh, “South Sudanese Fighting Carries Heavy Price Tag,” *U.S. News*, January 2015 <https://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2015/01/14/civil-war-could-cost-south-sudan-international-community-billions> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² *South Sudan: The Cost of War, An Estimation of the Economic and Financial Cost of Ongoing Conflict*. Frontier Economics, Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE), and Centre for Peace and Development Studies (CPDS) <http://www.frontier-economics.com/documents/2015/01/south-sudan-cost-war.pdf> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁶³ Ibid.

saved a combined USD 53 Billion between security costs, healthcare, and education.⁶⁴ Furthermore, had the conflict been resolved within one year, it is estimated that USD 30 billion would have been saved on peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance alone.⁶⁵ South Sudan, a developing economy which declared independence two years prior to the start of the conflict (11 July 2011) was not prepared for such a high-price event.⁶⁶

The relationship between conflict and development is complicated and dependent on many factors. Political and developmental marginalization; and the unequal distribution of economic gains are considered factors that contribute to internal conflict.⁶⁷ The complexity of this relationship can be seen most clearly in South Asia. A UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) report, titled *Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in South Asia*, detailed the priorities and potential challenges unique to the region in regard to the SDGs set by the General Assembly to be achieved by 2030.⁶⁸ South Asia possesses an immense amount of potential, with a youth bulge that can become the backbone of future industries.⁶⁹ The World Bank states that over half of the world's youth are growing up in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.⁷⁰ The South Asian youth are focusing more on their education and starting families later in life as opposed to prior years, creating an opportunity to develop the ever-growing middle class and propel families out of poverty.⁷¹ While agriculture currently takes up 24.7 percent of the region's GDP, it is responsible for 46 percent of the workforce.⁷² However, although agriculture is still an important aspect of economic prosperity for the region, there are other economic sectors that have grown at a much faster rate in recent years and serve as prime opportunities for economic development. The service sector, for example, has grown to encompass 57 percent GDP, and is a sector that could absorb new workers.⁷³ Finding and connecting the needs of the economy with the resources of the region is key to reducing poverty.⁷⁴

Vertical integration of industries, or intra-regional trade, can allow for further development within the sub-region.⁷⁵ Currently, intra-regional trade only accounts for five percent of total trade by South Asian Member States.⁷⁶ As South Asia is home to 40 percent of the world's poorest population, there is an increased need to ensure that equitable growth occurs as development continues to expand within the sub-region.⁷⁷ Further, policy suggestions focused on mitigating internal conflict have included greater cross-border and regional cooperation in combatting separatists, a large contributor to the internal conflict found in South Asia.⁷⁸ This has helped to mitigate the negative side effects of conflict by providing solutions such as proper management of displaced people and assistance to businesses to provide for those who have not left the conflict areas.⁷⁹

⁶⁴ *South Sudan: The Cost of War, An Estimation of the Economic and Financial Cost of Ongoing Conflict*. Frontier Economics, Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE), and Centre for Peace and Development Studies (CPDS) <http://www.frontier-economics.com/documents/2015/01/south-sudan-cost-war.pdf> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ As of May 2017, the conflict is not officially over. President Kiir declared a unilateral ceasefire only after a famine was declared in South Sudan.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ *Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in South Asia: Key Policy Priorities and Implementation Challenges*. The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/publications/Report_Achieving_the_Sustainable_Development_Goals_in_South_Asia_12052017.pdf (accessed October 8, 2017).

⁶⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁰ *World Bank. 2017. Atlas of Sustainable Development Goals 2017 : From World Development Indicators. World Bank Atlas; Washington, DC: World Bank. © World Bank. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/26306> License: CC BY 3.0 IGO.* (accessed October 8, 2017).

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ *Regional Integration and Economic Development in South Asia*. Asian Development Bank and Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/29871/regional-integration-economic-development-south-asia.pdf> (accessed October 8, 2017). Page 45-46

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ "Top 4 issues for South Asia's Millennials," World Economic Forum, <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2016/10/top-issues-for-south-asia-millennials/> (accessed October 23, 2017).

⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Ejaz Ghani, Lakshmi Lyer, "Conflict and development," The Centre for Economic Policy Research, <http://voxeu.org/article/conflict-and-development-lessons-south-asia> (accessed September 1, 2017).

As can be seen in South Sudan and South Asia, the solutions to promoting and preserving economic development and prosperity during times of internal conflict are multifaceted and encompass numerous parts of society. While the continuation of trade practices and adoption and expansion of new labor sectors can help to further economic development, cooperation and coordination of anti-conflict and terror policies with surrounding states and the international community can help to minimize some of the primary contributing factors to economic destabilization during times of conflict.

Actions Taken by the UN

The UNDP works to preserve instances of economic development during times of internal conflict, as exhibited in South Sudan and South Asia. The UNDP released the *Guide on Livelihoods and Economic Recovery* in 2013 as a way to connect the UNDP and its counterparts with the latest advancements in economic development strategies.⁸⁰ The guide details three strategies that can be applied in a variety of situations. First, the Livelihood Stabilization project focuses on sustaining or providing economic development for those in immediate need.⁸¹ Examples of this include programs that provide people with opportunities like working for cash, working in exchange for food, and community infrastructure grants to begin the process of moving from self-employment to development.⁸² These programs are focused on the microeconomics of the affected region and those most immediately affected by the conflict.

Second, the Local Economic Recovery projects are less focused on the crisis and instead stress rebuilding the community in the aftermath. At times, these projects are broadly focused on creating an environment conducive to economic development, including access to financial resources and government policies that encourage growth. Such programs include vocational training and conditional payments in exchange for satisfying certain prerequisites like sending children to school or providing healthcare to dependents.⁸³

Finally, the third component of the guide, known as Long-term Employment Creation and Inclusive Economic Growth is geared toward long-term development.⁸⁴ These projects include teaching skills that could prevent future economic hardships and promote quality economic policies through the government. These approaches could be applied across the world to reduce the negative economic impact of conflict.

Recognizing that post-conflict development possesses its own particular problems, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) released a policy brief in 2008 regarding these unique challenges and potential policy solutions. DESA stresses the importance of rebuilding a sense of security and allowing governing institutions the freedom to design their own policy solutions unique to their Member State. DESA works to place each Member State in the leading roles of their own post-conflict development plans.⁸⁵ Effective policies thus far involve a combination of social and financial capacity solutions including microfinancing and utilizing groups such as trade unions to circumvent the social divides that might have been created during the conflict, religious, racial, or otherwise.⁸⁶ These approaches allow for the government and other actors to avoid another violent outbreak and unify the civilian population while simultaneously rebuilding the economy.⁸⁷ Ensuring that civilians feel equally

⁸⁰ *Guide on Livelihoods & Economic Recovery in Crisis Situations*. The United Nations Development Programme. February 2013 <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/crisis-prevention-and-recovery/guide--livelihoods---economic-recovery-in-crisis-situations/> (accessed September 1, 2017).

⁸¹ Ibid.

⁸² Ibid.

⁸³ Ibid.

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ “*State building in post conflict countries requires a different approach*”. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/policybrief7.pdf> (accessed October 23, 2017).

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

included in the re-development process is important to the social health of the Member State and can translate to more equal development going forward.⁸⁸

Conclusion

With internal conflict persistent in Member States throughout the world, it is an obvious challenge to development. Member States with higher instances of conflict struggle with development during and post-conflict. Member States that lack developmental opportunities also suffer higher occurrences of conflict. This cyclical pattern is detrimental to the entire global community. Many experience unwanted or unexpected events during times of conflict, specifically internal conflict. Much of these unforeseen events have a negative impact on the economy of the immediate area. Whether these problems include the inability to maintain a local market place during conflict, or the displacement of people away from the conflict zone and to other regions, they affect and possibly even destroy the economic climate within a given society. Furthermore, these local issues can, at times, cause a ripple effect and impact global markets.⁸⁹ Thus, the global economy suffers from being unable to harness the economic strengths and power of those Member States lost in conflict.

The UNDP works to encourage development in even the most challenging of circumstances. While encouraging development during times of internal conflict is full of unique obstacles, it is not a lost cause. South Asia and South Sudan serve as case studies where economic development during and immediately following conflict can be achieved. Reducing internal conflict and capitalizing on development opportunities can mitigate future conflict and spur development. Encouraging development as a means to prevent conflict, and assisting in development opportunities when conflict arises, are both opportunities for the UNDP to help the world's poor.

Committee Directive

The UNDP seeks to reduce poverty and promote equitable development. Delegates in UNDP are charged with the duty to improve upon current solutions and/or develop new and viable recommendations. How can the UNDP best help local communities reduce the economic impacts of civil conflict? In what ways can we use economic development to prevent civil conflict from reoccurring? Is it going to be necessary, or developmentally advantageous, to tackle each internal conflict with a different solution? Are there areas impacted by the conflict that the UNDP should focus on that it currently isn't? If so, how can we create a framework or process to find these targeted solutions and implement them in each respective internal conflict?

⁸⁸ "State building in post conflict countries requires a different approach". The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/policybrief7.pdf> (accessed October 23, 2017).

⁸⁹ Scott Gates, Håvard Hegre, Håvard Mogleiv Nygård and Håvard Strand, "The consequences of internal armed conflict for development (part 1)," Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, March 2015 <https://www.sipri.org/commentary/blog/2015/consequences-internal-armed-conflict-development-part-1> (accessed September 1, 2017).

II. Promoting Gender Equality to Enhance Economic Development

Introduction

Promoting gender equality has been a priority of the United Nations (UN) for decades. In the 1970s, research conducted by the UN transformed the field, shifting the study of gender based equality from “Women in Development” to “Gender and Development.”⁹⁰ This research, conducted by the UN to determine the effectiveness of women in the agricultural industry of several African Member States, proved that development was not gender neutral.⁹¹ It stated that “gender blind” development created challenges for women, preventing them from achieving their full potential.⁹² Development that does not take into consideration the unique challenges affecting only women is in itself detrimental to women across all sectors.⁹³ The change of priorities regarding gender equality led to a push for inclusion of both genders in all forms of development by allowing equal, active participation in the workforce, engagement in education, and the end of legislative de jure discrimination.⁹⁴

History

The General Assembly (GA) provided specific parameters to define gender discrimination in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1979.⁹⁵ CEDAW identifies gender discrimination as “any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.”⁹⁶ CEDAW also calls for multiple measures geared toward preventing gender discrimination, such as replacing discriminatory laws with more inclusive laws, creating laws against discrimination, generating tribunals to protect women’s rights, and taking steps to end discrimination within organizations and corporate settings.⁹⁷

Through continued work by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), several key steps have been attained in promoting gender equality.⁹⁸ First, in most Member States, “gender parity” has been achieved in primary school.⁹⁹ Second, since the early 1990’s, maternal mortality has almost halved worldwide.¹⁰⁰ Finally, the UNDP confirms that 1,700 businesses in 12 Member States have met the standard for fair hiring practices, including unique approaches to ensure diversity and inclusiveness in the workplace, requirements that gender parity be addressed through retirement policies, and the designation of special leadership programs for women in management.¹⁰¹

Achieving gender equality is a key step towards promoting economic development. Inclusion of women in the workforce has the potential to increase a state’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) significantly, due to the additional

⁹⁰ “Women’s Role in Economic Development Overcoming the Constraints,” Sustainable Development Solutions Network, <http://unsdsn.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/130520-Women-Economic-Development-Paper-for-HLP.pdf> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

⁹¹ Ibid.

⁹² Ibid.

⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ Ibid.

⁹⁵ “Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,” UN Women, <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ “The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015,” United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/mdg/the-millennium-development-goals-report-2015.html> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

⁹⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ “Women Empowerment,” United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/gender-equality/women-s-economic-empowerment.html> (23 Oct 2017)

productive power supplied by these women.¹⁰² Beginning with the age of the Industrial Revolution and continuing through World War II, the primary focus of economic prosperity in developed and developing states was on land-based industries such as agriculture and mining, and manufacturing.^{103 104} These fields, as well as the social norms of the time, generally preferred male involvement in the labor force. Women, instead, spent their days at home performing activities such as child care and tending to household responsibilities. However, beginning in World War II, women became more valued in the workforce in those states affected by or involved in the war, particularly in manufacturing and business accounting jobs.¹⁰⁵ This increase in the prevalence of females in the workforce, combined with the need for increased labor forces to aid with post-war reconstruction efforts, sparked a social and economic movement.¹⁰⁶ The reliance on females to keep the economy functioning during times of war began to change the social view of women in the workplace, particularly given the fact that females saved many of these industries from failure during the war years; the view shifted from an unfavorable one to one of increased production and prosperity worldwide.¹⁰⁷ This, combined with work of the UN, would help to pave the way for a slow but continuing evolution of the male-dominated workforce.

Current Situation

According to a report released by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), women make up nearly 50 percent of the world's population and yet are one of the most "underutilized" resources on the planet.¹⁰⁸ If true gender equality were achieved, the positive economic benefits would be exponentially beneficial to a Member State's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).¹⁰⁹ Since 1995, in areas monitored by the OECD, additional inclusion of women in the workforce has accounted for roughly 50 percent of the employment rate and a quarter of annual economic growth.¹¹⁰ According to UN Women and the UNDP, Fortune 500 companies with a management team constructed of more than 50 percent of women deliver 34 percent higher returns to their shareholders.¹¹¹ Further, since 1960, 25 percent of the GDP growth of the United States of America has been attributed to women in the workforce.¹¹² As the OECD noted, if female employment rates increased as quickly as the male employment rate, there will be substantial GDP growth.¹¹³

The OECD also reported that women do not receive fair compensation for their contributions to the workforce.¹¹⁴ Specifically, the agricultural, service, and manufacturing sectors provide ample evidence of the stark differences in pay rates between men and women.¹¹⁵ Among the OECD Member States, women in full-time jobs earn 18 percent less pay compared to men. The percentage gap is wider in Japan and the Republic of Korea, with women making at

¹⁰² Ziman, Rebecca. "Women in the Workforce: An In-Depth Analysis of Gender Roles and Compensation Inequity in the Modern Workplace," University of New Hampshire Scholar Repository. 2013. <https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1158&context=honors> (Accessed January 20, 2018).

¹⁰³ "Land Based Industries of the Early 1900s," Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador.

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/economy/landbased-industries.php> (Accessed January 21, 2018).

¹⁰⁴ "The U.S. Economy in the 1920s," Economic History Association. <https://eh.net/encyclopedia/the-u-s-economy-in-the-1920s/>. (Accessed January 21, 2018).

¹⁰⁵ Dunlop, "Female Power." The Economist. December 30, 2009. <http://www.economist.com/node/15174418> (Accessed January 21, 2018).

¹⁰⁶ "Gains and Losses for Women After WWII," Striking Women. <http://www.striking-women.org/module/women-and-work/post-world-war-ii-1946-1970> (Accessed January 21, 2018).

¹⁰⁷ Ibid.

¹⁰⁸ "Gender and Sustainable Development" Maximizing The Economic, Social and Environmental Role of Women, <http://www.oecd.org/social/40881538.pdf> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹¹ Ibid.

¹¹² Ziman, Rebecca. "Women in the Workforce: An In-Depth Analysis of Gender Roles and Compensation Inequity in the Modern Workplace," University of New Hampshire Scholar Repository. 2013. <https://scholars.unh.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1158&context=honors> (Accessed January 20, 2018).

¹¹³ "Gender and Sustainable Development" Maximizing The Economic, Social and Environmental Role of Women, <http://www.oecd.org/social/40881538.pdf> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹¹⁴ Ibid.

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

least one-third less than male wages.¹¹⁶ Even with this well documented contribution to vital and key industries, women are often denied basic protections such as safe working conditions, sick leave, maternity leave, and paid time off.¹¹⁷ These basic protections can lead to job security, as women without them are forced to take time off for maternity leave, childcare, etc., and therefore run the risk of losing their job. Furthermore, women are not accurately represented in the economy, as they have been consistently denied minimum wage and labor representation, which often leads to market distortions.¹¹⁸ In some of the worst cases worldwide, women are denied inheritance, ownership over the capital they earn, and control over their reproductive health.¹¹⁹ Worldwide, less than 50 percent of women report an account at a financial institution, leaving them financially insecure.¹²⁰ Furthermore, nearly 50 percent of women globally are employed in positions considered vulnerable, meaning underpaid, undervalued, and unsafe such as maids and agricultural workers.¹²¹

Based on these statistics, the promotion of fair and equal treatment of both genders will help to not only increase the place of women in the economy worldwide, but has the potential to benefit the economy of individual Member States as well as the global economy.¹²² An OECD report and analysis by UN Women on the benefits of economic empowerment, states that if women are compensated fairly, permitted control of their money, and promoted to the same positions as men throughout the workforce, then approximately 50 percent of the workforce currently prevented from these activities would be able to contribute to GDP, and an overall better standard of living. Affording themselves and their families' better opportunities worldwide.

Actions Taken by the United Nations

The UN has made achieving gender equality a priority and continually strives to address it.¹²³ As previously discussed, economic empowerment of women promotes a stronger economy and therefore can help to promote development in all states globally. In July 2010, then Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon established the High-Level UN Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment (HLPWEE), a permanent panel within UN Women with the continued goal of monitoring this global issue and suggesting remedies moving forward.¹²⁴ This panel is constituted of individuals with many different roles in society, such as representatives from Member State domestic governments, businesses, civil society, and non-governmental organizations.¹²⁵ The HLPWEE recognizes that it is imperative to empower women economically in order to further sustainable development for the global society.¹²⁶

The HLPWEE has set forth four steps to achieve gender equality.¹²⁷ First, the HLPWEE asserts that the initial step to achieve gender equality is leadership and commitment to the goal of gender equality through the promotion women throughout their careers to high-level leadership and commitment.¹²⁸ Second, the Panel has released several reports demonstrating the benefits of including women in the workforce.¹²⁹ However, according to the 2015 pilot report, four major hurdles still remain for gender equality in the global community: social norms in society that restrict women's equality, lack of laws and protections applying to women, not paying women for housework, and a lack of access to financial capital and property.¹³⁰ Third, the Panel maintains a list of priorities for the UNDP to

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

¹¹⁹ Ibid.

¹²⁰ Ibid.

¹²¹ "Facts and Figures: Economic Empowerment," UN Women, <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹²² Ibid.

¹²³ "Final report of the UN High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment Calls on Leaving No One Behind," UN Women, <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/3/new-final-report-of-the-un-high-level-panel-on-womens-economic-empowerment> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹²⁴ Ibid.

¹²⁵ "About the Panel," UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, <http://hlp-wee.unwomen.org/en/about/the-panel> (23 Oct 2017)

¹²⁶ Ibid.

¹²⁷ Ibid.

¹²⁸ "Goals and Principles," UN Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, <http://hlp-wee.unwomen.org/en/about/goals-and-principles> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ Ibid.

pursue to achieve gender equality in its Member States, along with the strategies to accomplish them.¹³¹ These goals are: to demonstrate high-level leadership and commitment, inform and inspire action by highlighting the gains, and identify priorities for concrete, effective, scalable, and transformative actions that address critical constraints and that can be taken now.¹³² Additionally, they work to show how governments, employer and worker organizations, businesses, multilateral organizations, development partners, and civil society can create partnerships to achieve women's economic empowerment.¹³³ Finally, the HLPWEE recommends different strategies for Member States and residents therein to follow that suggest ways for different sectors of society to work together to achieve gender equality.¹³⁴

In addition to working to promote the work of HLPWEE, the UNDP maintains its relationships with companies is an efficient strategy, as companies generally have a foundation laid in individual communities. To date, over 1,000 Chief Executive Officers have signed onto the Women's Empowerment Principles defined by the HLPWEE to promote corporate social responsibility in efforts to increase the individual prosperity of local communities and the overall prosperity of states as a whole.¹³⁵

Furthermore, UN Women has developed a number of programs in conjunction with domestic governments to address female economic promotion.¹³⁶ In the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, the domestic government recently passed the Foreign Employment Policy, aimed at the creation of a network with the goal of protecting 2.7 million migrant workers who consist of mostly women and children.¹³⁷ The utilization of this network within the workforce of Nepal can help to expand prosperity in all sectors, but particularly those of business management and service.¹³⁸ In the Republic of Kenya, the domestic government, with the assistance of UN Women and the UNDP, has guaranteed, through government mandates that 30 percent of government spending will go towards marginalized groups including women, along with the training of 1,500 women and men entrepreneurs and the creation of women's professional organizations.¹³⁹

Finally, the UNDP has taken a proactive approach on the issue. Since 2009, the UNDP has deployed 2,000 specialists to Member States such as the Republic of Guatemala, Kenya, and the Arab Republic of Egypt, to assist local communities in achieving gender equality in the workforce, with mixed results.¹⁴⁰ Additionally, the UNDP, in an effort to show which Member State UN Offices are promoting gender equality in the workplace, has developed the Gender Equality Certification Programme.¹⁴¹ This program is aimed at evaluating UNDP satellite offices throughout Member States and rewarding those which exemplify gender equality best practices with a Gold Equality Seal to use as an example to all other satellite offices of outstanding work.¹⁴² Thus far, 57 UNDP satellite offices have achieved this accreditation.¹⁴³

¹³¹ "Goals and Principles," UN Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, <http://hlpwee.unwomen.org/en/about/goals-and-principles> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹³² Ibid.

¹³³ Ibid.

¹³⁴ "Goals and Principles," UN Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Women's Economic Empowerment, <http://hlpwee.unwomen.org/en/about/goals-and-principles> (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹³⁵ "Economic Empowerment Of Women", UN Women, http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un%20women_ee-thematic-brief_us-web%20pdf.pdf?la=en (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ Ibid.

¹³⁸ "Economic Empowerment Of Women", UN Women, http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2013/12/un%20women_ee-thematic-brief_us-web%20pdf.pdf?la=en (accessed 23 Oct 2017)

¹³⁹ Ibid.

¹⁴⁰ "Crisis Response," United Nations Development Programme, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/crisis-response.html> (accessed 18 Nov 2017)

¹⁴¹ "Gender Equality Certification Programme for UNDP Entities," UNDP, <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/gender-equality/institutional-innovations-for-gender-equality-/institutional-innovations.html> (accessed 18 Nov 2017)

¹⁴² Ibid

¹⁴³ Ibid.

Conclusion

In conclusion, although the UNDP has made strides to improve the amount of opportunity, equality of treatment, and rights of women within society, true gender equality or gender equality in the workplace have yet to be achieved. Since the 1979 agreement to evaluate the economic impact of gender equality, there has been a substantial improvement in responding to inequality. The UNDP is charged with the directive to mitigate the prevalence of gender inequality and promote the economic benefits of female inclusion in the workforce on a global scale. Gender equality is imperative for improvement in the global economy, its society, and the world's future.

Committee Directive

It is clear that while some progress has been made towards achieving gender equality, much more must be done to declare real victory. To this point, many reports have been released and discussed, but most issues have gone without resolution. Delegates should consider the following questions: Should the UN and other subsidiary groups take more tangible action in promoting gender equality using the current strategy? Or should the UN usher in a new strategy of action to address this international dilemma? Furthermore, if a new strategy is to be developed, how will it be monitored to measure the success of inclusion to demonstrate the effects of including women in the workplace? Are there partnerships that the UNDP can develop or expand that could lead to more gender equality? Where does gender equality belong when discussing development and how can the UNDP promote development that supports and promotes gender equality? Are there barriers that the UNDP can assist in removing, to help level the economic and social playing field?

Technical Appendix Guide

I. Preserving Economic Development in Times of Internal Conflict

Clark, Helen. "Conflict and Development: Inclusive Governance, Resilient Societies." Lecture at Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law, and Armed Conflict. February 2013.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/speeches/2013/02/11/helen-clark-conflict-and-development-inclusive-governance-resilient-societies.html> (Accessed 12 December 2017)

Helen Clark is the former New Zealand Prime Minister (1999-2008) who then went on to be the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (2009-2017). In her capacity as UNDP Administrator, she worked to increase the transparency of the UNDP and their development projects around the globe. Her speech focuses on strategies that the UNDP is utilizing as ways to prevent conflict and increase development. Her views on building an inclusive government as a means to reduce conflict and promote development make her a unique voice in the views of classic development policy.

Collier, Paul. "Development and Conflict." Oxford University: Centre for the Study of African Economies, Department of Economics, October 1, 2004.

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/f36a/dfdaf3f2444cc2f66cf74c4812ad510676d0.pdf> (Accessed 12 December 2017).

When any discussion regarding development and/or conflict arises, many pull their basic ideas from Collier. He's one of the first researchers to have connected the problems of conflict and development. The ideas that are discussed throughout the topic all build upon Collier's research. This text, while has a focus on economic development, can be used in conjunction with other resources to build a strong foundation for policy suggestions.

"Human Development Report 2016: Human Development for Everyone," United Nations Development Programme, <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-2016-human-development-everyone>. (Accessed 12 December 2017).

As the only United Nations body required to produce a report on the status of each Member State the Human Development Report serves as a vital resource during the beginning stages of research. The report lays out the latest successes, overarching challenges, and goals for the global community. With a vast array of statistical analyses on the global, regional, and state level, the Report can assist to improve policy ideas with targeted research.

"UNDP: Our Projects," United Nations Development Programme, <http://open.undp.org/#2017> (Accessed 12 December 2017).

This landing page is an access point into case specific, current information regarding UNDP projects around the world. The UNDP has begun a campaign to encourage transparency in development projects and as a result has released data on over 10,000 UNDP projects. Much of their project information is comprehensive and can give insight to the true cost of development projects both big and small.

II. Promoting Gender Equality to Enhance Economic Development

Schwab, Klaus. "Gender Gap Final." *Box*,

https://weforum.ent.box.com/s/hoy8t3m96h6cfj4vyvl0s6rkeagkijxn?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter_axiosam&stream=top-stories. (Accessed 12 December 2017).

This source is a wealth of statistical information. It covers the gender gap in many Member States. This source should be referenced especially when to determine specific facts and figures relevant to individual Member States and regions.

“United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign to UNiTE To End Violence Against Women,” The United Nations, <http://www.un.org/en/women/endviolence/> (Accessed 12 December 2017)/

The UNDP has a number of outreach programs and ways people can get involved in this topic worldwide. This website is the UNDP’s collection of all of these different resources. Here you will find information regarding what the UN is doing on the ground.

“New Opportunities for Women Artisans in Upper Egypt,” United Nations Development Programme, www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/ourstories/new-opportunities-for-women-artisans-in-upper-egypt/ (Accessed 12 December 2017).

This source is another example of a program that the UNDP undertook to address this global problem. This program focused on Upper Egypt. Original and cultural handicrafts were one of the few ways that women who were unable to gain access to formal education could support themselves. This program gave women the technical skills to promote their product to increase profits. This source will be quite helpful in possible education based resolutions.

“Young Women Encouraged to Join National Police of Timor-Leste,” United Nations Development Programme, www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/ourstories/young-women-encouraged-to-join-national-police-of-timor-leste/ (Accessed 12 December 2017).

This page created by the UNDP shows the results of a UNDP action in Timor-Leste. This also highlights a success that the UNDP has had, and provides readers with first-hand accounts from beneficiaries on the ground. This will be useful for seeing tangible examples of what is working and could possibly be applied to other areas. This can also be seen as an example of the UNDP assisting women in breaking gender stereotypes as this is allowing women to join the police force.