The Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR) has been centrally involved in helping to define how human rights can be meaningfully operationalized into the Sustainable Development Goals. During the negotiations to define the Agenda, CESR was a co-convener of the Post-2015 Human Rights Caucus, and worked with many other development, feminist, environmental and human rights organizations to advocate for a strongly human rights-aligned set of goals. Since 2015, CESR has been proposing policy solutions for achieving the SDGs, particularly as they relate to inequalities, and exploring how to create more meaningful accountability for the Agenda. CESR also works to advance accountability in economic, fiscal and social policy more broadly, particularly in the wake of the global economic crisis, and supports the efforts of civil society groups worldwide to engage with human rights accountability mechanisms at the national and global level.

**KEY PUBLICATIONS**

**From Disparity to Dignity:**
"tackling economic inequality through the SDGs"

Extreme economic inequality is one of the most urgent issues of our time, exacerbating poverty, hindering development, and undermining the full spectrum of human rights. The inclusion of a standalone goal on inequality in the 2030 Agenda – Goal 10, which promises to reduce inequalities both within and between countries – has the potential to catalyze much-needed action to narrow the vast divide between the haves and the have-nots. However, SDG10 is also uniquely vulnerable to strategic neglect and political backlash or inertia. *From Disparity to Dignity* examines the human rights issues at stake in SDG10 and offers a set of human rights-based policy proposals to ensure the promise of this goal is fulfilled.


**Spotlight on Sustainable Development 2019:**
"Reshaping Governance for Sustainability"

Co-published by CESR along with the Arab NGO Network for Development, DAWN, Global Policy Forum, Public Services International, Social Watch, Society for International Development and Third World Network. This annual civil society “shadow report” provides the most comprehensive independent assessment of the implementation of each of the 17 SDGs, based on experiences and reports by national and regional groups and coalitions worldwide. The 2019 edition argues that implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires holistic power shifts, including among institutional, legal and political commitments to realizing human rights. It analyzes current global and national governance arrangements that hinder implementation of the SDGs, and puts forward recommendations for the structural reforms needed.

Seeking accountability for women's rights through the SDGs. This briefing, co-published with UN Women, explores how States’ accountability for the Sustainable Development Goals can be strengthened, with a particular focus on their commitments to advance women’s human rights. It shows that the ‘follow up and review’ mechanisms foreseen in the 2030 Agenda - including the UN High-Level Political Forum and national processes - need significant strengthening, including to boost the participation of women and girls, and to foster responsiveness to their rights. It emphasizes that independent monitoring, including from women’s rights organizations and civil society more broadly, will be crucial to ensure that women and girls can effectively influence decision-making so that in practice the SDGs live up to their pledge to achieve gender equality and end gender discrimination everywhere. The briefing also explores how human rights monitoring bodies at national, regional and international levels could function as avenues for SDG accountability as they pertain to the advancement of women’s rights.

http://cesr.org/seeking-accountability-women%E2%80%99s-rights-through-sdgs

Realizing Rights Through the SDGs: the role of National Human Rights Institutions. This briefing co-published with the Danish Institute for Human Rights explains the unique contribution that national human rights commissions, ombuds offices, equality bodies and other NHRIs can make to the post-2015 agenda.


The Measure of Progress: how human rights should inform the SDG indicators. Ultimately, the progress governments are making towards the SDGs will be judged through the lens of the indicators selected; therefore, they are a crucial foundation of efforts to hold governments accountable for their commitments. This 2015 briefing explores how human rights should inform the selection of indicators to monitor progress towards the SDGs. It highlights the criteria that should guide the selection of indicators, and proposes a number of approaches, methodologies and indicator sets that can help to ensure that SDG implementation and monitoring properly anchored in human rights. The briefing draws on CESR’s rich experience of monitoring human rights, including in development contexts, as well as on other work in the field of human rights indicators.

http://cesr.org/measure-of-progress

OTHER RELEVANT RESOURCES

Blog: Five key takeaways from the 2018 High Level Political Forum
http://www.cesr.org/five-key-takeaways-2018-high-level-political-forum

Blog: Two years on, can human rights rescue the 2030 Agenda?
http://www.cesr.org/two-years-can-human-rights-rescue-2030-agenda

All publications available at: www.cesr.org