

Aligning the UNESCO Recommendations on Science and Scientific Research (RSSR) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Eight ways in which the RSSR can contribute to the SDGs and SDG implementation

1. Facilitate anticipation of the social and ecological impacts, risks and possible side effects of science-based solutions to achieve the SDGs.	Develop controls to identify and minimise harm to local communities, the environment and ecosystems.	Guarantee the health and safety of all persons to be affected by science.	Recognise and address dual use and misuse, including illicit and socially problematic applications.	Take note of and address warnings of hazards and risks.
2. Make decision-making on the selection, funding and implementation of SDG strategies more transparent, inclusive and democratic.	Commitment to truth, protection from undue influences, and promotion of democratic decision-making.	Participatory approaches to integrate societal stakeholders into decisions on SDG strategies.	Public accountability and disclosure of conflicts of interests.	A commitment to evidence-based decision making.
3. Foster open science and inclusive, participatory approaches to advance the SDGs.	Initiate ongoing dialogue between scientific community and society.	Engagement and consultation of communities.	Informed debate on the advantages and disadvantages of science-based solutions for the SDGs.	Sharing and open access to knowledge and scientific data between researchers, policy makers and the public.
4. Achieve responsible and fair international research and development collaborations.	Ensure that researchers comply with laws and regulations in different countries, as well as international standards.	Ethical review in sponsor and host countries.	Clear agreements for benefit sharing.	Responsiveness to the needs of host countries.
5. Ensure broad and equal access to the benefits of SDG-related science and innovation processes.	Take measures to ensure that the benefits of science are shared with society, at national and international level.	Make advances from research and development partnerships available to people in all participating societies.	Commitment to assist the growth of indigenous capabilities for research and development.	Adequate support for the performance of research in developing countries.
6. Accomplish equal access to research opportunities and careers in projects that tackle the SDGs around the world.	Facilitate equal opportunities for education and access to research careers and education.	Equitable conditions of work, recruitment and promotion, without any form of discrimination.	Equal access to knowledge through open access and open data.	Create safe and competitive conditions for researchers to avoid brain drain.
7. Strengthen a commitment to gender equality, diversity and inclusion in research and development initiatives that aim to achieve the SDGs	Encourage women and persons of other under-represented groups to consider careers in the sciences.	Eliminate biases against women and persons of other under-represented groups in work environments and appraisal.	Enable the co-production of knowledge across different social groups and cultures.	Give special attention to indigenous, traditional and local knowledges, as complementary resource to science-based strategies to achieve SDGs.
8. Develop research and development projects that respect human rights and prevent exploitation, coercion or discrimination.	Prevent exploitation of research subjects.	Prevent exploitation of indigenous, traditional and local communities, and other vulnerable groups.	Adequate acknowledgement of knowledge sources.	Develop measures to prevent irresponsible profit making, e.g. biopiracy, illicit transfer of digital data, genetic resources, etc.