CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS TO THE REALISATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

MONITORING AND ADVISORY

INTEGRATED MONITORING CAN REINFORCE STATES’ COMMITMENTS TO BOTH HUMAN RIGHTS AND SDGs (The National Commission for Human Rights of Mexico)

To fulfill the promise of the 2030 Agenda to realise the human rights of all and “leave no one behind”, it is crucial to guarantee efficient and coherent approaches to SDG monitoring. The broad human rights monitoring mandate of NHRIs often provides the basis for other key roles, such as providing advice and recommendations to governments and protecting the rights of marginalised groups.

The non-discrimination and equality principles that are fundamental principles of human rights go hand in hand with the ‘leaving no one behind’ principle, strongly reflected in the 2030 Agenda. The knowledge and hands-on experience of NHRIs with these issues can be used for building efficient and coherent joined-up approaches for monitoring both human rights and sustainable development.

The NHRI of Mexico (Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos - CNDH) has made a commitment and is taking concrete steps to incorporate the perspective of the SDGs in all its work, including in monitoring. In 2017, the Commission began to incorporate the SDGs in an increasingly systematic manner in their Recommendations regarding complaints and non-conformities over alleged human rights violations committed by federal authorities.

In its recommendations to the state, the CNDH is referring to human rights violations based on the interpretation of both SDGs and human rights standards. It has, for instance, used SDG 8 to reinforce its argument when referring to the State’s obligation to protect labour rights and promote a safe and secure work environment for agriculture workers (Recommendation n. 2/ 201, para 146). This practice reinforces the international commitment of the State for the realisation of both human rights and sustainable development.