How to Optimize Stakeholders' Reports for the UPR

14 May 2021











Database of recommendations https://upr-info-database.uwazi.io/

The UN's Universal Periodic Review must respond to COVID-19

Free Webnars: How to Optimize Stakeholders (Reports for the UPR

Pre-sessions 38: Call for applications extended for Estonia, Latvia,...

Launch of a Child-friendly UPR Guidel

https://www.upr-info.org/



How can you have an impact on the UPR of your country?



Programme

Technical Guidance and Good Practices for the submission of stakeholders' reports to the UPR

- 1. Intro: The Universal Periodic Review
- 2. Other Stakeholders Report
 - 2.1 Rules of Submission of a Report
 - 2.2 Good practices
- 3. Using Human Rights Data in the Upr
 - 3.1 Demo of the Rights Tracker



1. The UPR



The UPR in brief

UNIVERSAL

PERIODIC

REVIEW

OBJECTIVE:

Improve the human rights situation on the ground and share best practices among stakeholders



Basis of the Review

by the OHCHR Summary of CSOs and Treaty bodies NHRIs reports by OHCHR **Special Procedures** The national report Reports written by **UN Agencies** Written by the State under - National human rights Review with broad institutions national consulations - CSOs / NGOs Documents for the review human rights situation

Compilation of information



Why a CSO submission?

Alternative to the States' Reports

Provide solutions by proposing action-oriented recommendations

Why should you submit a report to the UPR?

Provide updated and first-hand information on your country

Raise awareness about "new" human rights issues

Assess the implementation of the recommendations from the 2nd cycle.



2. Other Stakeholders' Report2.1 Rules of Submission



Who can submit?

- Who can submit?
 - ☐ UN entities, CSOs, NHRIs, groups of academics
 - □ No anonymous submission will be considered
 - □ Individual submission or Joint submissions (2 or more CSOs)



Joint & individual submission

An organisation may submit one individual submission and participate in several joint submissions.

Advantages of joint submissions:

- Adds weight to concerns expressed and recommendations suggested in the submission
- Increases likelihood of recommendations being made by States

Advantages of individual submissions:

- Less consensus-seeking
- Quicker drafting process
- Often used by well-known organisations as they are certain of being included in the summary



Rules of Submission

Word-limit:

- ☐ Joint submission: **5,630 words** (about 10 pages)
- ☐ Individual submission: **2,815 words** (about 5 pages)
- ☐ Cover page, endnotes and annexes do not count



Submission content

Content: To do



Prioritise first-hand views, data, conclusions and findings. Use technical language and concrete examples.



Include a methodology chapter: information gathering process, consultations, desk review, field research, observation, interviews, testimonies etc.



Focus on assessments of implementation of past recommendations and comment on their impact thereon, as well as on developments



Content: To do

Submission content

















Highlight challenges, but also **mention** improvements and good practices if any

Suggest **SMART** recommendations (linked to themes addressed in the submission)

Check previous recommendations received by your country, if not implemented, make them SMART if necessary

Include questions

Be precise and concise in information presented. Mention were further information on the topic can be found (references)



Submission format

- Word document. Use paragraph and page numbers
- ☐ Cover page: presentation of the coalition (date of establishment, purpose), **contact details**
- Language: Written contributions should be submitted in one of the UN official languages and preferably in English, French or Spanish
- Maximum 10 annexes: Matrice, midterm report, list of submitting organisations, additional documentation can be annexed for reference.
- ☐ Endnotes to reference information. Will not be considered for the summary.



Submission structure

1. Introduction

2. Methodology

3. National UPR Contexte

- 4. ISSUE 1 (repeat for all issues or sub-issues)
 - Normative framework
 - Information about implementation level since 2nd cycle (reference to the specific recommendations number)
 - Specifically affected groups or more vulnerable groups
 - Statistics, data

4.1 Recommandations ——— Make them SMART!

4.2 Questions in Advance



Submission structure

Do not:

- ☐ Include pictures or maps
- ☐ Use abusive language (report will not be considered)
- ☐ Use subjective or emotional language (risk that the report will not be considered and if published, will undermine the credibility of the information presented).



When to submit a report?

Next Deadline:

Timeline for UPR engagement in the current cycle



Before 15:00 Gva time!!







Where to submit the Report?

- Submit well in advance to avoid technical glitches
- Register a profile at least 48 hours before the submission https://uprdoc.ohchr.org
- Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered
- Uploaded submissions cannot be edited
- □ uprsubmissions@ohchr.org can be contacted for assistance



Welcome to the OHCHR On-line UPR Submissions Registi	ration System
Log In If your organisation has already an account, you can access it here to submit information for the UPR documentation or to see previous submissions.	User name
Register If your organisation does not have an account, you can create a new organization account here. Click Register under the login section on the right to create an account.	Password
Reset Your Password If you forget your password, you will find a password reset link under the login section on the right hand side of this page.	☐ Remember me?
Review Once logged in, you can access your profile anytime by clicking your username at the top right-hand corper of the website.	Log in

Q&A



2.2 Good practices

- -OHCHR Matrix
- -SMART recommendations
- Integrated Approach
- More tips!



Matrice of Recommendations

Saves space in the CSO submission

Suggested levels of implementation: Fully, partially or not implemented. Alternatively, in percentages.

OHCHR Matrix

UPR of Syria Arab Republic (3rd Cycle - 26th session)

Thematic list of recommendations

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Recommendation	Position	Full list of themes	Assessment/comments on level of implementation
Theme: E23 Right to adequate housing			
109.190 Increase access to electricity, basic sanitation and running water (Maldives): Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E23 Right to adequate housing E26 Human Rights & drinking water and sanitation Affected persons: - general	
Theme: E51 Right to education - General			
109.193 Provide access to education to children (Pakistan); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.194 Take effective steps to address the educational needs of all children, even in these difficult conditions (Singapore); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.195 Step up efforts for the protection of schools with a view to ensuring that education may continue (Argentina); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	ESI Right to education - General Affected persons: - children	
109.191 Continue efforts to provide full access to basic medical services and education and to protect children from the worst forms of child labour (Holy See). Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	E51 Right to education - General F31 Children: definition; general principles; protection F33 Children: protection against exploitation Affected persons: - children	
109.192 Ensure equal access to education for all vulnerable people, including women, children and persons with disabilities (Lao People's Democratic Republic); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	ESI Right to education - General F4 Persons with disabilities Affected persons: - women - children - persons with disabilities	
Theme: F12 Discrimination against women			
109.86 Continue and strengthen efforts in the fight for gender equality (Nicaragua); Source of position: A/HRC/34/5/Add.1	Supported	F12 Discrimination against women Affected persons: - women	

Gives a telling overview of the implementation level (at a glance)



SMART Recommendations



Specific

Requires a well defined action in relation to a specific right or violation.



Measurable

Can the recommendation be monitored and implementation be assessed?



Achievable

This is determined by the capacity of a SuR to comply with the recommendation and refers to material capacity, not political will.



Relevant

Is the recommendation relevant to the incountry situation and linked to the improvement of human rights?



Time-bound

The time frame for implementation of recommendations; by the next review or sooner.



The SMART formula

Be specific and precise!

The *specific* dimension requires a clear and well-defined **action**

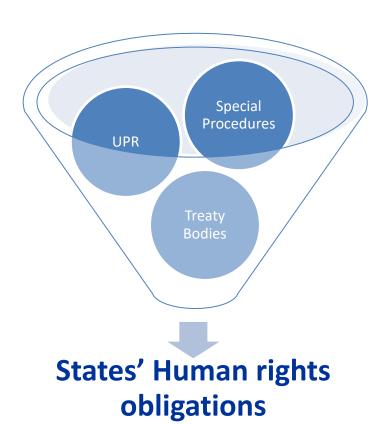
- What action/s do you expect the Government to undertake to implement the recommendation?
- ☐ 1 recommendation = 1 theme, and 1 action

establish undertake ratify conduct implement amendiny estigate an adont

Use Action Verbs for Smart Recommendations!



Adopt an integrated Approach









































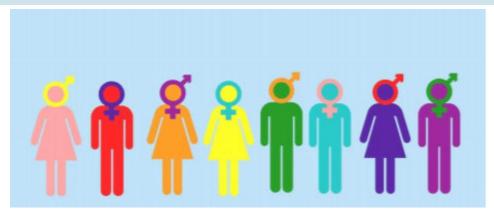
Gender Mainstream

Apply a gender analysis in your reports:

- to assess if measures/actions taken by the government took into account the implications for women and men.
- To suggest inclusive recommendations

Example: UPR rec on access to education in rural areas

In measures/actions taken to ensure access to education in rural areas, do we take into account implications for girls and boys? Will it be sufficient to ensure access for girls living in rural areas or do they face specific challenges?





The impact of Covid 19

COVID-19 has affected every aspect of our lives.

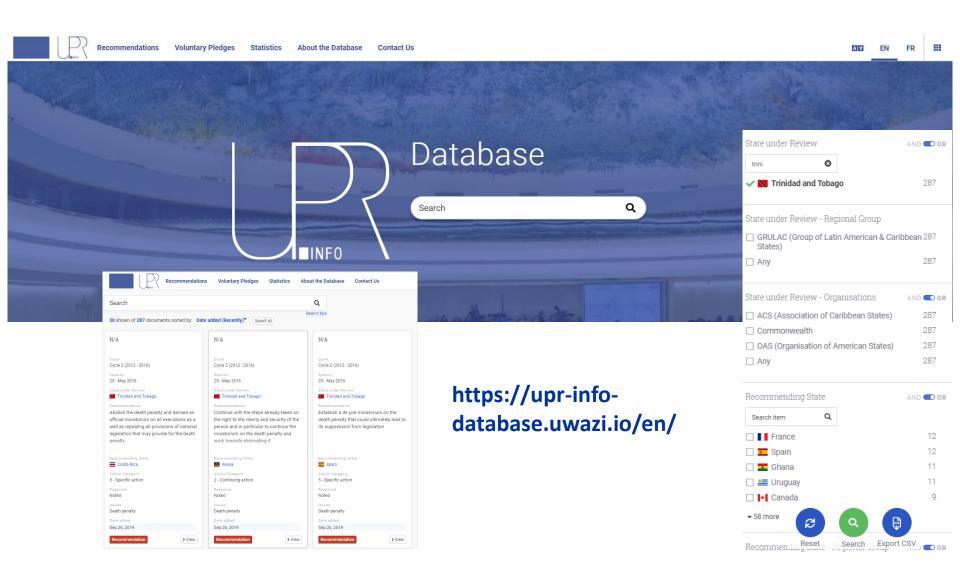


Address the challenges in your report to the UPR

As the Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, said: "With common cause for common sense and facts, we can defeat COVID-19 -- and build a healthier, more equitable, just and resilient world".



Tools







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