

## *Leave No One Behind: A Tagline That Needs to Be Done*

The Sustainable Development Goals represent global interests on various issues, such as human rights and well-being, which are often contentious when their conception and practice are interpreted differently in many parts of the world.<sup>1</sup> Overall, the seventeen pillars of the SDGs talk about fulfilling basic needs and rights by achieving a just and prosperous life.<sup>2</sup> What is crucial is the implementation of SDG's tagline, Leave No One Behind. In this context, space for participation needs to be opened by aligning the State's policies and integrating the interests of society.

The problem is that there are still groups of people who do not have access to the fulfillment of basic needs and rights to achieve a decent quality of life. Some are refugees, persons with disabilities, inmates, migrant workers, and other sub-classes disadvantaged economically, socially, culturally, politically, religiously, and legally. Therefore, the State must ensure that the vulnerable social classes get the fulfillment of their needs equitably. One alternative way is to issue laws and policies that guarantee society to access resources and participate in developing them.

Another problem arises concerning the issue of the civil society strengthening sector, which should be open to challenges and become inclusive, has not been achieved due to the emergence of sentiments and exclusivity between social classes. There is still a struggle for access to resources, indifference to the needs of others, and other violations of human rights committed by individuals, groups, and systems.

Several authors in previous editions have explained different subjects and topics related to the SDGs and the COVID-19 pandemic. Nira et al. (2022), in CSI Vol. 2 No. 2, argued that Indonesia is a country that has the burden of bearing refugees with the problem of meeting their needs.<sup>3</sup> One way to do this is through a cultural approach strategy that cultural hybridity emerges and can back up access to meet the needs of refugees.

Meanwhile, in the same journal of CSI volume and number, Asaju (2022) wrote that the Nigerian government's SDGs target was considered less successful because of Nigeria's special conditions where poverty and unemployment are very high, low infrastructure development, and poor social services.<sup>4</sup> One recommended way is the Development of administration supported by technological advances. Another author in the CSI journal

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<sup>1</sup> Magdalena Bexell, Thomas Hickmann, and Andrea Schapper, 'Strengthening the Sustainable Development Goals through Integration with Human Rights', *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics* 23, no. 2 (1 June 2023): 133–39.

<sup>2</sup> Inga T. Winkler and Carmel Williams, 'The Sustainable Development Goals and Human Rights: A Critical Early Review', *The International Journal of Human Rights* 21, no. 8 (2017): 1023–28, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13642987.2017.1348695>.

<sup>3</sup> Fadhilah Permata Nira, Maula Hudaya, and Rizky Anggia Putri, 'The Discourse of Humanity in COVID-19 Pandemic', *Journal of Contemporary Sociological Issues* 2, no. 2 (31 August 2022): 153–72, <https://doi.org/10.19184/csi.v2i2.28411>.

<sup>4</sup> Kayode Asaju, 'Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Intricacies and Dynamics of Development Administration', *Journal of Contemporary Sociological Issues* 2, no. 2 (31 August 2022): 173–89, <https://doi.org/10.19184/csi.v2i2.27890>.

volume 3 no 1, Budiarti et al., described the case of receiving formal assistance during the Covid-19 pandemic in Indonesia, optimizing the role of technology does not have to go through a large and complicated system but by ensuring that existing platforms can be accessed impartially and inclusively by the vulnerable group.<sup>5</sup> The alternative way being encouraged is a legal need and multi-stakeholder approach to ensure the platforms can achieve those goals.

This edition of the Journal of Contemporary Sociological Issues discusses the SDG tagline "Leave No One Behind" and the issues surrounding it through a human rights approach. Widaningtyas et al., authors of an article entitled "Maintaining Political Rights Equality: The Feeling of Innovation as a Social Service Institution Strategy for Blinds," noted that the participation of the blind community in general elections cannot be guaranteed to be confidential due to the limitations of the voting method. The authors stated that if blind people are provided with a companion, the principle of direct, general, liberty, and secret elections cannot be achieved. Meanwhile, if blind people are given Braille letters to read the ballots by themselves, it takes a relatively longer time. Based on this situation, the Penganthi Temanggung Social Service Center for Blind Sensory Disabilities (PPSDSN) produced an innovation in the form of Electronic Election Ballots for netRAs with disabilities, abbreviated as RASA MESRA which is used by blind people when casting ballots in elections. Through this study, RASA MESRA has become an innovation that can reduce the occurrence of manipulation, fraud, and cheating. Moreover, most importantly, this innovation can guarantee that blind people exercise their political rights and obligations according to the principles of democratic elections.

Meanwhile, a study on the dangers of corruption, especially for human rights, was written by Kitjapat Kesiranon in an article entitled "Scrutinize the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC): A Human Rights Critique on Defining Corruption and The Concrete Sanction." His study argued that a definition of corruption needs to be reviewed in the UNCAC documents. Furthermore, this definition is crucial for preventing and overcoming the problem of systematic corruption that violates human rights. In this regard, concrete sanctions for corruption crimes need to be followed up to strengthen the international criminal court and force countries to act on corruption cases lawfully under domestic law. On a different spectrum, Limbong and Fitri studied the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the right to work and social security. Their article entitled "The Human Rights Framework for Covid-19 Pandemic Recovery: A Sustainable Development Goals Insights" described the challenges faced by the country to guarantee people's lives after the emergence of regulations and policies related to restrictions. This study shows that the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the SDGs, particularly in fulfilling economic, social, and cultural rights.

Guaranteeing human rights is an obligation to the State for citizens who have not committed crimes and those currently serving prison terms. Likewise, meeting the needs of inmates in a supportive environment until they are ready to return to society will be along with the SDGs. Zubairu, in his article entitled "The Risk-Need-Responsivity Model on Inmate Rehabilitation: A Lesson from Nigeria," reported that in Nigeria, custodial centers do

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<sup>5</sup> Arsa Ilmi Budiarti, Dio Ashar Wicaksana, and Nanda Oktaviani, 'The Role of Technology in the COVID-19 Pandemic Era: A Lesson Learned from Indonesia in Increasing Access to Legal Aid', *Journal of Contemporary Sociological Issues* 3, no. 1 (26 February 2023): 1–22, <https://doi.org/10.19184/csi.v3i1.27710>.

not function optimally as rehabilitation centers for prisoners, partly because of poor conditions, difficult access, and the high costs issued by the State. Thus, rehabilitation programs are limited to the criminogenic needs of inmates, for instance, sports, religious, vocational, counseling, and educational activities.

Finally, Massay and Susan argue that the emergence of xenophobic sentiment and violence in South African cases has encouraged massive crime and conflict among refugees, immigrants, asylum seekers, job seekers, and even ethnic minorities. One alternative way to decrease xenophobia needs to be taken is to increase the economy, improve land policies, and reduce political games that give rise to hate speech and disputes.

Again, "Leave No One Behind" has become a slogan expressing inequality. Uneven Development becomes a reality that occurs not only as a colonial legacy.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, until now, theoretical concepts have debated the consequences that not only occur on the economic structure but have also penetrated the psychological problems of state subjects. Two things must be reflected; the first relates to the psychological conditions formed in discourse and social practice. On the other hand, political issues and relations between countries refer in more detail to relations between entities and cultural systems that present citizens.

The complexity of development programs implemented by the State.<sup>7</sup> Then, in another dimension, how international policies present global realities at the local level. The conflicting realities that occur have become an issue that seems to be addressed in sustainable Development, which requires cooperation and a balance of economic, social, political, and cultural access. However, capital intervention, which still runs predatory to gain profit, exploitation of nature, and marginalization of vulnerable groups, is not improving. Therefore, sustainable Development is still an ideal that should continue to be believed and can happen.

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<sup>6</sup> Neil Smith, *Uneven Development: Nature, Capital, and the Production of Space* (University of Georgia Press, 1990), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt46nmvk>; Jamie Peck, Marion Werner, and Martin Jones, 'A Dialogue on Uneven Development: A Distinctly Regional Problem', *Regional Studies* 57, no. 7 (3 July 2023): 1392–1403, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2022.2116417>.

<sup>7</sup> Jose Miguel Natera and Fulvio Castellacci, 'Transformational Complexity, Systemic Complexity and Economic Development', *Research Policy* 50, no. 7 (2021): 104275; Bjorn Nordtveit, 'Complexity Theory in Development.', *Center for International Education Faculty Publications* 55 (1 January 2007), [https://scholarworks.umass.edu/cie\\_faculty\\_pubs/55](https://scholarworks.umass.edu/cie_faculty_pubs/55).

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