

FORMAT		
1. Name of resource	General comment No. 25 (2020) on science and economic, social and cultural rights	
2. Location	https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/general-comments-and-recommendations/general-comment-no-25-2020-article-15-science-and	
3. Alternative location		
4. Author[s]	United Nations	
5. Publisher/producer/host	United Nations	
6. Year	2020	
7. Suggested citation	United Nations (2020). General comment No. 25 (2020) on science and economic, social and cultural rights. E/C.12/GC/2, available at https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/general-comments-and-recommendations/general-comment-no-25-2020-article-15-science-and	
8. Languages in which available	English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, Spanish	
9. Geographic area resource relates to	Global	
10. Does the resource relate to a specific time frame?		
11. Type	Report	Yes
	Toolkit/Framework/Roadmap	Yes
	Sign-post to other resource (database)	
	Case studies	
	Other	
12. If this is part of an initiative, what is the initiative?		
COLLECTIONS AND COLLECTIONS-BASED INSTITUTIONS		
13. Explicit links to collections	Yes	
14. Explicit links to museums/libraries/archives	Yes	
15. Types of institutions the resource covers	Museums	X
	Archives	X
	Libraries	X
	Other	X

16. Types of collections/disciplines the resource covers	Arts, humanities and social sciences: philosophy, psychology, religion, social sciences, law, politics, language, arts and recreation, architecture, literature, history, geography and ethnology, anthropology, archaeology	X
	Science, natural history, technology, medicine, engineering, manufacturing	X
17. If no explicit links to collections, justification for inclusion		
HOW IT CONTRIBUTES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		
18. Collections-related activities the resource relates to (mark all that apply)		
Develop collections to protect and safeguard wider cultural and natural heritage more effectively , for example by targeting collecting to threatened forms of heritage in strategic ways		X
Use collections to promote learning and educational opportunities that contribute to sustainable development more effectively , for example education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development and/or skills development relating to collections		X
Use collections to promote cultural participation/social inclusion more effectively , for example by reducing barriers to participation, to ensure no-one is 'left behind'		X
Use collections to promote sustainable tourism more effectively , for example by developing new products based on local cultural heritage, and/or considering the rights of stakeholder groups in relation to collections		
Use collections to support research that contributes to sustainable development (including all forms of personal and self-directed research at all levels that make use of stored collections) more effectively, for example by providing effective facilities, collections and information to meet researchers' needs		X
Make decisions around collections that contribute to sustainable development more effectively		
i. employment (recruiting, staff training, staff safety)		X
ii. energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, reduction, monitoring and reporting		

iii.	waste management and reduction of waste	
iv.	transport (forms of transport, energy use)	
v.	commercial activities including copyright and IP	
vi.	governance and management	X
vii.	security, disaster preparedness and risk reduction	
Direct external leadership, partnerships and collaborations towards sustainable development more effectively , for example by developing impactful partnerships		X
19. Does the resource relate clearly to any international conventions (mark all that apply)?		
Culture conventions:		
1952, 71 Protection of Copyright and Neighbouring Rights		
1954 Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict		
1970 Fighting Against the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property		
1972 Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage		
2001 Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage		
2003 Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage		
2005 Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions		
Rio Conventions:		
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)		X
AIMS AND CONTENT		
20. What issues does the resource aim to address?	“The intense and rapid development of science and technology has had many benefits for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights. At the same time, the risks – and the unequal distribution of these benefits and risks – have prompted a rich and growing discussion on the relationship between science and economic, social and cultural rights... In spite of these developments, science is one of the areas of the Covenant to which States parties give least attention in their reports and dialogues with the Committee. This has led the Committee, after a wide consultative process, to develop this general comment on the relationship between science and economic, social and cultural rights.” (Introduction and basic premises)	
21. Intended audience of resource	[Anyone working with science policy and its implementation]	
22. Process of development	[Developed by a ‘wide consultative process’ by the Committee]	
23. Organisation/structure /contents	1. Introduction and basic premises 2. Normative content 3. Elements of the right and limitations	

	4. Obligations 5. Special topics of broad application 6. International co-operation 7. National implementation
FRAMEWORKS	
24. Framework structure	The resource can be considered as a framework.
25. Relevant policy considerations	Yes
26. Resources for implementation identified	Yes
27. Specific assessment points/indicators/milestones/action plan for monitoring	Yes
28. ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
People (social sustainability)	X
Planet (environmental sustainability)	X
Prosperity (economic sustainability)	X
Peace	X
Partnerships	X
29. CROSS-CUTTING CONSIDERATIONS COVERED BY RESOURCE (mark all that apply)	
Gender perspectives	X
North and South perspectives	X
HOW THE RESOURCE CONTRIBUTES TO AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs	
HOW AGENDA 2030 AND THE SDGs FEATURE IN THE RESOURCE	
30. SDGs and Agenda 2030 specifically mentioned?	No
31. SDGs specifically mentioned?	No
32. SDG targets specifically mentioned?	No
33. SDG indicators specifically mentioned?	No
SDGs AND SDG TARGETS AND LINKAGES	
34. Comments on SDG linkages	The resource can support SDG targets related to science and education, including 2.5 (safeguarding crops, wild relatives and related traditional knowledge, including in seed banks), 4.4 (skills for work), 4.5 (removing barriers in education), 4.7 (Education for Sustainable Development), 4.A (effective and inclusive learning environments), 9.1 (sustainable infrastructure), 9.5 (supporting scientific research), 9.A (support science in developing countries), 10.2 (promote universal social,

	<p>economic and political inclusion), 11.4 (protect and safeguard cultural and natural heritage), 11.7 (safe and welcoming green and public spaces), 12.8 (information for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature), and 13.3 (climate education and awareness), 14.A (supporting scientific research on the ocean), 15.6 (Access and Benefit-sharing of use of genetic resources), 16.7 (inclusive decision making), 16.10 (protect access to information), 16.B (laws and policies for sustainable development), 17.6 (international co-operation for science), 17.14 (policy coherence for sustainable development), 17.16 (global partnerships) and 17.17 (national and cross-sector partnerships). Like education, science is a cross-cutting activity, that can contribute to all goals and many targets.</p>
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35. SDGs and SDG targets the resource helps advance

<p>SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed</p>	<p>Collections development related to genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants, farmed and domesticated animals (notably of local or at-risk varieties) and related wild species, for example in herbaria, museums, seed and gene banks, and seed libraries.</p> <p>Number of educational programmes related to genetic diversity of domesticated plants, animals and wild relatives.</p> <p>Number of educational programmes related to fair and equitable benefits of use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, following international agreements (e.g. Nagoya Protocol).</p> <p>Number of educational and awareness programmes for people to ensure that they are aware of their rights and protections in terms of traditional knowledge, and exploitation of genetic resources.</p> <p>Number of research activities that help understand traditional knowledge, and genetic diversity of crop plants and animals.</p> <p>Ensure that producers of crop plants and animals are fairly compensated.</p> <p>Policies and procedures in place to ensure seed banks are soundly managed, in terms of risk management and emergency planning.</p>
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	<p>Policies and procedures in place to ensure legal compliance with fair and equitable benefits of use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, following international agreements (e.g. Nagoya Protocol).</p> <p>Number of partnerships at national, regional and international levels, as appropriate, to soundly manage seed and plant banks.</p>
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p>	<p>Number of young people and adults in skills-development activities and programmes drawing on collections, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship</p> <p>Increase in number of young people and adults in such programmes</p> <p>Number and proportion of staff who have received training in the last year, to better support their contribution to the SDGs.</p> <p>Programs and processes in place to ensure the availability of a skilled workforce.</p>
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations</p>	<p>Number of educational and/or training programmes drawing on collections directed to eliminate gender disparities in education.</p> <p>Number of educational and/or training programmes drawing on collections directed to meet the particular needs of persons with disabilities.</p> <p>Number of educational and/or training programmes drawing on collections directed to meet the particular needs of Indigenous peoples' groups.</p> <p>Number of educational and/or training programmes drawing on collections directed to meet the particular needs of children in vulnerable situations.</p>
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>	<p>Numbers of people in each type of programme drawing on collections from different demographic groups.</p>

<p>4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development</p>	<p>Increases in numbers of people in each type of programme from different demographic groups.</p> <p>Proportion of people involved in such programmes in relation to overall audience size.</p> <p>Evidence that learners have acquired knowledge and skills to promote sustainable development.</p>
<p>SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>4.A Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all</p>	<p>Number and proportion of education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive.</p> <p>Proportion of education facilities that provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.</p> <p>Number and type of initiatives to improve effectiveness of learning environments.</p> <p>Support given to other education facilities to make them more inclusive and effective.</p>
<p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all</p>	<p>Development of research-useful collections to support reliable, sustainable and resilient use by researchers and others.</p> <p>Number and proportion of collections facilities and stores that support economic development and human well-being.</p> <p>Number and proportion of collections facilities and stores that provide affordable and equitable access for all.</p> <p>Investment in collections facilities.</p>

	Inclusion of collections information in regional and transborder initiatives, notably via digital access for discoverability.
<p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization</p> <p>9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending</p>	<p>Number and proportion of collections facilities that effectively support research and researchers.</p> <p>Number and proportion of staff who are appropriately skilled to undertake and support collections-based research.</p> <p>Expenditure on initiatives to enhance and upgrade collections facilities.</p> <p>Numbers of staff engaged in supporting and developing research use based on collections.</p> <p>Number of initiatives to encourage innovation drawing on collections.</p> <p>Increase in number of research and development workers per 1 million people.</p> <p>Increase in public and private research and development spending being used to develop and make use of collections.</p>
<p>SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>9.A Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.</p>	<p>Plans in place to support development of sustainable and resilient infrastructure in developing countries through financial, technological and technical support, for example through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. joint projects, ii. funding bids, iii. sharing equipment, collections and collections information as appropriate, iv. in order to support development of high-quality infrastructures for sustainable development, research and innovation.
<p>SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and between countries</p> <p>10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex,</p>	<p>Collections development to ensure that collections effectively meet the needs of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.</p>

<p>disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status</p>	<p>Number and proportion of educational and participatory programmes that promote participation irrespective of social or other status.</p> <p>Numbers and proportions of people making use of collections in relation to the demographic of the local population.</p> <p>Numbers and proportions of people involved in focused programmes aimed at promoting social, economic and political inclusion.</p> <p>Numbers and proportions of people from different demographic groups involved in decision-making processes relating to collections and collections-based institutions.</p> <p>Number and types of partnerships that build relationships with marginalized groups, individuals and communities.</p>
<p>SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage</p>	<p><i>11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage</i></p> <p>Plans, policies and procedures in place for the safe use of collections for a variety of purposes, protecting and safeguarding both collections and those who use them.</p> <p>Plans, policies and procedures in place for the identification, safeguarding and protection of cultural and natural heritage at risk.</p> <p>Collecting programmes in place to protect, safeguard and make use of cultural and natural heritage, addressing the needs of communities and stakeholders, and ensuring that collections can be an effective resource for sustainable development.</p> <p>Number and diversity of educational, awareness-raising, research programmes, and partnerships that aim to strengthen protection of cultural and natural heritage.</p>
<p>SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe,</p>	<p>Numbers of people accessing collecting institutions from different demographic groups, notably women, children, older people and persons with disabilities.</p>

<p>inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p>	<p>Increases in numbers of people accessing collecting institutions from different demographic groups.</p> <p>Measures taken to remove barriers to access green and public spaces.</p> <p>Extent of green space provided by collections institutions.</p>
<p>SDG 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature</p>	<p><i>12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment</i></p> <p>Extent to which global citizenship education and education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in formal, informal and non-formal education programmes and activities drawing on and related to collections.</p>
<p>SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning</p>	<p>Plans in place to enhance positive contributions to addressing climate change through use of collections. Plans in place to ensure collections, collections institutions and broader society can adapt effectively to climate change.</p> <p>Plans in place for effective education and awareness raising on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</p> <p>Plans in place to reduce negative contributions of collections-related functions, e.g. measuring greenhouse emissions with plans and targets in place to reduce them.</p>
<p>SDG 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development 14.A Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the</p>	<p>Number of collections-related activities that aim to increase scientific knowledge, and develop research capacity for the conservation and management of marine biodiversity, and to support its sustainable use.</p>

<p>Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries</p>	
<p>SDG 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss 15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed</p>	<p>Policies, plans and agreements in place for access and benefit sharing relating to use of collections, in line with the Nagoya Protocol (notably relating to natural history collections, gene banks, tissue banks, seed banks).</p> <p>Effective communication and dissemination methods in place to promote access to resources, and access to relevant policies, plans and agreements, in place.</p>
<p>SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels</p>	<p><i>16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions</i> <i>16.7.2 Proportion of population [audience/users/non-users] who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group</i></p> <p>Decision-making addresses societal, environmental and economic challenges related to the community, considering short-term and long-term risks and opportunities.</p> <p>Decision-making draws on diverse backgrounds, viewpoints and interests, reflecting a broad base of stakeholders, and working to promote inclusion and provide effective services for all of society.</p>
<p>SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for</p>	<p>Adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.</p>

<p>all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements</p>	<p>Plans in place, and plans implemented to enhance public access to information relating to collections.</p> <p>Plans in place, and plans implemented to support fundamental freedoms, in line with human rights, national and international agreements and legislation.</p> <p>Plans and procedures in place for public access to information relating to the operation and management of collections-based institutions.</p> <p>Complaint mechanism in place for public to use where public access to information and fundamental freedoms not supported or fulfilled.</p>
<p>SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. 16.B Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development</p>	<p><i>16.B.1 Proportion of population [audience/users/non-users] reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law</i></p> <p>Number and proportion of policies that incorporate sustainable development considerations, in the full sense of recognizing all three of social, economic and environmental considerations.</p>
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals 17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism</p>	<p>Number and diversity of North-South, South-South and triangular co-operations and projects to support access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms.</p>
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development</p>	<p>Proportion of policies that incorporate sustainable development considerations, linking to SDGs and targets.</p>

	Incorporation of policy considerations from outside the collections sector into policies of collections-based institutions, to facilitate partnerships and effectiveness.				
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals</p> <p>17.16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries</p>	<p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of global and international multi-stakeholder partnerships that share collection-related knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to address the SDGs, or that otherwise involve collections-based organisations and institutions.</p> <p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of global and international multi-stakeholder partnerships involving developing countries that share collection-related knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to address the SDGs.</p>				
<p>SDG 17. Partnerships for the goals</p> <p>17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships</p>	<p><i>17.17.1 Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private and civil society partnerships</i></p> <p>Number and/or increase in number, and diversity of local, national and regional multi-stakeholder (public, public-private and civil society) partnerships that address the SDGs drawing on collections, or that otherwise involve collections-based organisations and institutions.</p>				
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