The International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC): Strengthening the contribution of media for a future of sustainable development

Donor: The Netherlands
Timeline: 2017-2019
Amount: US$1,617,340*
* 2017: $803,158; 2018: $484,261; 2019: $329,921

Outcome

Media development is strengthened, and Member States have improved monitoring and reporting systems, and these results are reinforced by external grassroots projects supported by the IPDC.

Output 1
Capacities of duty bearers reinforced and advocacy conducted to monitor and report on crimes against journalists and on their judicial follow-up and/or to foster policies and practices to protect journalists, particularly women.

Output 2
Locally-owned media development projects are supported to effectively influence gender-transformative media policies, regulation, self-regulation and legislation, including on gender-equality, and contribute to sector-wide reform, growth and/or sustainability.

Output 3
International and national debates on the contribution of access to information (ATI) to SDGs promoted through the organization of the IPDCTalks.

Output 4
Capacities of governments, civil society and media actors reinforced to advocate for progress towards SDG 16 through universal access to information.

Target groups

Main: Duty bearers (governments; policy-makers; and law enforcement forces)
Secondary: Right holders (journalists and media actors and associations; academia; and CSOs)
End beneficiaries: groups benefiting most from achieving the SDGs, particularly youth and women in rural and poor communities

Activities

Earmarked projects:
1) Establishment and reinforcement of national monitoring and reporting mechanisms on safety of journalists and impunity
2) Supporting gender equality in and through the media
3) Capacity building and advocacy on SDG 16.10.2 on Access to Information
4) Organizing the "IPDCTalks" (now "OpenTalks") in 16 countries
5) Promoting the implementation of the Access to Information Law in Afghanistan
6) Capacity support in IPDC Secretariat

Non-earmarked projects:
Contributions to media development projects submitted through IPDC’s annual cycle

Impact

Member States protect and promote freedom of expression, including freedom of press, access to information and journalists’ safety and make progress towards SDG 16.
Earmarked projects

**Establishment and reinforcement of national safety mechanisms**

Governmental responsibility and accountability on the safety of journalists strengthened through the establishment or reinforcement of national monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

**Countries:** Iraq, Pakistan, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia and South Sudan, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Peru and the Philippines.

**Supporting gender and the media**

1) **Fostering gender balance and sensitivity in media in Asia:** research conducted on gender-sensitive practices in media organizations and gender bias in their content in the region.

   **Countries:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives.

2) **Fostering balanced and fair gender portrayal in Jordanian media content:** Nationwide assessments carried out by the Tiber organization based on UNESCO’s Gender Sensitive Indicators for Media (GSI Ms).

3) **Strengthening IPDC-Global Alliance for Media and Gender (GAMAG) partnership for gender-transformative media development.**

   a. Increasing capacity for gender equality in and through media & ICTs (GAMAG): the centrality of communication in broader struggles for gender equality and women’s human rights as well as for the achievement of the SDGs advocated, where a set of position papers on gender equality in and through the media, to be disseminated in late 2018, along with supporting videos.

   b. Mapping gender for creating model journalism and media curricula (UNESCO/UNITWIN Network on Gender, Media and ICTs): model curricula developed based on a comprehensive survey on “Mapping Educational Strategies for Creating Gender-sensitive Journalism, Media and ICT Curriculum.”

**Capacity support in IPDC Secretariat**

Implementation of earmarked projects optimized through the engagement of a consultant to coordinate activities financially supported by the Netherlands.

**Capacity building and advocacy on SDG 16.10.2 on Access to Information**

a) Capacities of governments, CSOs and media actors strengthened to monitor and report on the progress of SDG indicator 16.10.2.

b) Advocacy conducted both at national and international levels on the important role played by access to information in achieving development goals.

**The IPDCTalks (rebranded as the “OpenTalks”)**

As the main celebration of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI), the “IPDCTalks” serve as a high profile, innovative and impactful event, demonstrating that public access to high quality information, along with strengthened media institutions and civil societies, is key to achieving the SDGs.

a) Governmental and non-governmental stakeholders sensitized about the crucial link between access to information (ATI) and the SDGs;

b) Public awareness raised about the media’s wide-ranging role in monitoring progress towards the SDGs and in holding authorities accountable for their achievements;

c) Member States encouraged to consider integrating free, independent and pluralistic media within their overall national plans and policies for implementing SDGs in a creative, accessible and innovative way.

**Countries:**

2017: France (main event at UNESCO HQ), Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Jordan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palestine, Samoa, South Africa, Sudan, Uruguay and Yemen.

2018: Tunisia (main event), Afghanistan, Colombia, the Gambia, Jordan, Malaysia, Namibia, Pakistan and Palestine

**Access to information in Afghanistan**

a) Capacities of national and local public authorities’ strengthened to implement the right to access public information and freedom of expression;

b) Capacities of journalists and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) empowered to monitor and report on governments’ progress towards the SDG 16;

c) Knowledge of journalists, NGOs and public institutions strengthened about the links between access to information and sustainable development.

Non-earmarked projects

**Contributions to media development projects submitted by grassroots organizations through IPDC’s annual cycle**

Locally-owned transformative projects supported, providing local media stakeholders with new skills that impact not only on their professional capacities but also on the capacity of the communities they serve to access information and make informed decisions.

2017: 47 projects in 38 countries and at global and regional levels for an amount of US$676,820.

2018: 42 projects in 35 countries and at global and regional levels for an amount of US$850,370.

2019: 30 projects in 22 countries and at global and regional levels for an amount of US$639,646.

https://en.unesco.org/programme/ipdc/

ipdc.secretariat@unesco.org

Read more:

The Netherlands support safety of journalists and access to information through IPDC


The Netherlands will continue to strengthen safety of journalists and access to information


Dutch boost to the work of UNESCO’s IPDC

http://bit.ly/IPDCNetherlands1