The United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

Contributions of the Postal Sector and the UPU
Remarks at the UPU 2015 World Strategy Conference

“As the world shapes a new sustainable development agenda and strives to address the threat posed by climate change, postal services can and must be part of the solution”

Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary General

“Postal services play a key role in achieving sustainable development. Social and economic inclusion are the most important drivers of change”

Amina Mohammed, UN Special Advisor to SG

“Through integration, innovation and inclusion, the postal sector will help foster sustainable development”

Bishar Hussein, UPU Director General
# UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy and the UN SDGs

## Contribution and Link to UN SDGs

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<th>UPU IWPS</th>
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**Contribution and Link to UN SDGs**

- IWPS Goal 1: 29%
- IWPS Goal 2: 39%
- IWPS Goal 3: 32%

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Methodology

Four-Layer Approach

Layer 1: Postal Sector Contributions

Layer 2: UPU Strategy

Layer 3: UPU Activities

Layer 4: M&E/Indicators
Goal 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere

**Target 1.4**
Access to financial services, including microfinance

**1.5 bn** people worldwide are already using the financial services provided by Posts.

**Target 1.5**
Reduce vulnerability to economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

Following Typhoon Haiyan, PHLPost and partners brought cash grants to about **18,000** beneficiaries of the United Nations-World Food Programme.
SDGs & the UPU

UPU Activities

Programme on Disaster Risk Management

Programme on Financial Inclusion

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 2: Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products

Goal 3: Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UN Indicators:
Proportion of population/households with access to basic services, including national and international postal services
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Target 2.3
Equal access to land, financial services and markets

Target 2a
Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure

The Post as an enabler and infrastructure for rural development

India Post alliance with Multi-Commodity Exchange would make it possible for India’s 118.9 m farmers to avail of expert advice on farm-related issues, better market price for their produce, better warehousing facilities, funding against warehouse receipts, quality testing and grading facilities.

In Burundi, the Post implemented a government programme aimed at facilitating the distribution of fertilizers to around 350,000 families, helping to establish Burundi as a net exporter of rice.
Programme on Financial Inclusion

Development and Cooperation

Goal 2: Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products

Proposed UN Indicators: Proportion of post offices in rural areas
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

**Target 3.3**
End the epidemics of communicable diseases, including AIDS

More than 35 m people live with HIV/AIDS today. The HIV/AIDS campaign launched in collaboration with UPU is active in Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Estonia, Mali and Nigeria

**Target 3.8**
Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection

More than 18 m health and life insurance policies have been issued by Japan Post and India Post

**Target 3d**
Strengthen the capacity of countries for management of national and global health risks

Every month, 4000+ blood samples in iconic green envelopes are transported by the Uruguay Post to test incidences of 24 neonatal diseases with results within 48 hours
UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development

Programme on Financial Inclusion

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 2: Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products

Goal 3: Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UPU Indicators:
Number of insurance contracts provided by postal financial institutions
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Target 4.1
Access to quality primary and secondary education

Partly through the postal network, Brazil’s ‘Bolsa Familia’ program reaches 11 m families and 46 m people to encourage families to keep children in school. Brazil Post distributed 39 m schoolbooks.

Target 4.3
Access to affordable and quality technical education

More than 1500 participants are trained through UPU TrainPost every year, with training centres in more than 3 regions.

Posts as network for enabling knowledge dispersion and capacity building
**UPU Activities**

- Programme on Sustainable Development
- Programmes on TrainPost, Training and Development

**UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy**

- **Goal 1:** Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure
- **Goal 2:** Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products
- **Goal 3:** Foster effective market sector functioning

**Proposed UPU Indicators:**
Proportion of postal staff in training programmes
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5a
Give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to financial services

In developing countries, postal financial institutions have 2x as many female customers as other financial institutions.
SDGs & the UPU

Programme on Financial Inclusion

Goal 2:
Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products

Proposed UN Indicators:
Proportion of female account holders at postal financial institutions

UPU Activities

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Programme on Sustainable Development

Gender and Financial Inclusion through the Post-joint study by UPU and UN Women
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Target 7.1
Ensure access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

Target 7.2
Increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

Target 7.3
Promote investment in energy infrastructure and technology

**Postal network as a deployment tool for renewable energy**

SwissPost has Europe’s largest electric scooter fleet with more 5000 electric scooters delivering mail

130,000 post offices in India are equipped with solar panels to enable computerization of post offices to deliver postal and financial services to rural areas

UPU collaborated with the African Union and PAPU to launch the Electrification Project in 13 pilot countries to reach 65 rural post offices
UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 1:
Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure

Goal 3:
Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UN Indicators:
Annual postal carbon inventory (GHG emission)
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Target 8.2
Achieve economic productivity through high-value added and labor-intensive sectors

Target 8.3
Encourage growth of SMEs through access to financial services

Target 8.10
Expand access to banking, insurance and financial services

Postal sector as a valuable contributor to economic growth

The postal sector employs more than 5.4 m people worldwide, making it one of the largest employers in the world.

Rural areas in Brazil witnessed a 23% increase in the number of SMEs and 14% increase in employment growth due to an initiative by Brazil Post to provide financial services in rural areas without banks.

Moroccan Post now provides accounts to around 20% of the country’s population, especially in low and medium-income segments.
Proposed UN Indicators:
Percentage of adults with a formal account at a postal financial institution in the past 12 months
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Target 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

Target 9.3
Access of SME to financial services, in particular, in DCs

Postal sector as a denominator of inclusive innovation

146 countries provide postal Universal Services

51 Posts worldwide hold 1.6 bn savings and deposit accounts. 1 bn people are banked through the post.
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Target 9.a
Facilitate financial, technological & technical support to African countries

Target 9.c
Increase access to ICT & universal access to internet in LDCs

50 UPU Quality of Service projects are currently under implementation in Africa

In Botswana, the development of Internet access and the provision of various communication services in post offices through knowledge centres has increased the revenue of the connected post offices by an average of 25% and provided local community with a full range of e-services

In Bhutan, the UPU and ITU brought telecommunication connectivity to 38 isolated locations through their post offices.

Delivering the information society through connectivity, communication and government services to the under-served
UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development
Development and Cooperation
E-commerce, e-services and supply chain efficiency

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 1: Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure
Goal 2: Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products
Goal 3: Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UN Indicators:
Average parcel shipping time (parcel shipping time standard), by country, both for domestic and international parcel services

Domestic quality target for priority mail: annual performance level
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Target 10.2
Empower social and economic inclusion

With more than 600,000 post offices in the world, the postal presence in rural areas is unmatched by any other network to provide social and economic inclusion.

Target 10.c
Reduce transaction costs of migrant remittances

According to the World Bank, post offices are the world’s cheapest providers of remittance services. In sub-Saharan Africa, if all remittances were to be channeled through post offices, migrants and their families could save up to USD 3.2 bn a year.
## UPU Activities

- Programme on Sustainable Development
- Postal Financial Services
- Programme on Financial Inclusion

## UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

### Goal 1:
Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure

### Goal 2:
Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products

### Goal 3:
Foster effective market sector functioning

## Proposed UN Indicators:

- Percentage of adults with a formal account at a postal financial institution in the past 12 months
- Percentage of female account holders at postal financial institutions
- (World Bank) Cost of remittances through post offices
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Target 11.1
Access to safe, affordable housing & basic services

Approximately a quarter of the world’s urban population lives in slums (UN–Habitat 2013). Lack of addressing infrastructure can be a factor that worsens inequalities and undermines economic growth.

Target 11.3
Enhance inclusive & sustainable urbanization

In Denmark, it was found that the social benefits of addressing and accessing public data, would be about 20 million USD, while the cost was only 0.3 million USD – an extensive return on investment of 70 to 1.

Post as key infrastructure for urban development and risk management
Role of the Postal Sector

**Goal 11:** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- **Target 11.b:** Increase number of cities & settlements adopting DRM policies
  - Posts such as Poste Italiane, USPS or PhilPost are an integrated actors in national disaster risk management plans

- **Target 11.5:** Reduce deaths & economic losses caused by disasters
  - Nepal Post faced economic damages of USD 2.58 m following the April 2015 Earthquake

*Post as vital infrastructure for urban development and risk management*
UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development
Programme on Disaster Risk Management
Addressing

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 1:
Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure

Goal 3:
Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UN Indicators:
- Proportion of the population with a home address
- Share of the population with access to postal delivery services at their home address or in community cluster boxes close to their home address
- (UPU) Number of posts adopting DRM Policies
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target 12.6
Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

125 countries participate every year in the UPU Greenhouse Gas inventory

Target 12.7
Promote sustainable public procurement practices

Since 2008, Swiss Post has obtained all of its electricity from renewable energy sources. Work clothes for postal employees are produced in compliance with comprehensive social standards.
UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development

Goal 3:
Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UN Indicators:
Annual postal carbon inventory
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The postal sector as a key contributor to global response to climate change

Target 13.1
Strengthen resilience & adaptive capacity to natural disasters

By 2030, the UN predicts that disaster losses in the Asia-Pacific region alone could average USD 160 bn a year, up from just over USD 50 bn annually now.

Target 13.2
Integrate climate change measures into national policies

La Poste (FR) has launched the ‘Green Letter’ distributed in 48 hours and designed to emit an average 15% less CO2 compared to priority mail.

Target 13.3
Improve institutional capacity on climate change mitigation

With a USD 0 investment, Canada Post has achieved 25% reduction in paper consumption, 20% savings and 27% carbon reduction.
SDGs & the UPU

UPU Activities

Programme on Sustainable Development

Programme on Disaster Risk Management

UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy

Goal 1:
Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure

Goal 3:
Foster effective market sector functioning

Proposed UPU Indicators:
Annual postal carbon inventory (GHG emission)
Goal 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

Target 16.6
Develop inclusive, effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

More than 113,000 people applied to vote by post or proxy through Royal Mail during the 2015 General Elections

Target 16.10
Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms

La Poste is entrusted by the French Government to fulfill the fundamental obligation of distributing newspapers in all parts of France at below USO tariffs.
**SDGs & the UPU**

**UPU Activities**
- UPU Treaties and Regulations
- Universal Service Obligation
- Development and Cooperation

**UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy**
- **Goal 1:** Improve the interoperability of network infrastructure
- **Goal 2:** Ensure Sustainable and Modern Products
- **Goal 3:** Foster effective market sector functioning

**Proposed UPU Indicators:**
Proportion of member countries with defined universal service obligations
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 17: Strengthen and enhance the means of implementation and global partnership for sustainable development

Target 17.11
Increase the exports of developing countries

In Brazil, more than 10,000 MSMEs that would have never exported otherwise were able to internationalize their activities through an easy postal export program.

Target 17.16
Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development

UPU with 192 members acts as a platform for international partnerships with a wide variety of postal and non-postal stakeholders.

Posts as an enabler for trade facilitation through leveraging partnerships
Role of the Postal Sector

Goal 17: Strengthen and enhance the means of implementation and global partnership for sustainable development

Target 17.17
Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships

Target 17.18
Increase availability of high-quality data

Around 60 postal operators have partnerships with insurance companies to offer micro-insurance services

The UPU records 100 bn data points every year
**Proposed UN Indicators:**
Developing countries and LDCs’ e-commerce flows at the export level (volumes and/or values, and by product)

* UPU leadership on this indicator
UPU Istanbul World Postal Strategy and the UN SDGs

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Contribution and Link to UN SDGs

- IWPS Goal 1: 29%
- IWPS Goal 2: 32%
- IWPS Goal 3: 39%

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Next Steps

- **Calendar:** UPU IB report on SDGs, postal sector and strategy to be produced by February 2016 (draft 1) and Congress (final draft) with the support of Correos Spain

- **Next Cycle:** During the Istanbul cycle, analysis, monitoring and evaluation framework to be set up to monitor input of postal sector to SDGs at national, regional and global levels (see CA C4 2015.1 4b)

- **Approach:**
  1. Cross-sectorial approach within IB (Sustainable Development, Postal Economics, Strategy)
  2. Open approach to working with UN agencies
  3. Inclusive involvement of member countries