

Human Rights and Social Work: Do the Sustainable Development Goals show us the path?

Officially started in January 2016, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include 17 goals and 169 targets, and are applicable to all countries, not just the developing countries targeted by the Millennium Development Goals (see <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>). By targeting three aspects of development – social, economic, and environmental - they aim to eliminate hunger and poverty, achieve gender equity, and take action to address climate change and non-sustainable development, among other goals. With the SDGs, we have a major opportunity to do something new that will have a dramatic impact on our ability to transition to a truly sustainable, rights-based, and just future leading to prosperity for one and all, thus reducing marginalization.

Attendees will learn about the SDGs – what they are, how they were developed, and their potential to further the realization of human rights. Participants will discuss how social workers can become actively involved in the implementation of the SDGs in their own practice by identifying stakeholders, resources, and challenges, as well as how they can use the SGD framework to address marginalization.