

Application of International Human Rights & the Sustainable Development Goals to Dayton, OH

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First, what's a Human Rights City?

“...a municipality that has adopted human rights principles and laws, as guiding norms of governance.”

What does that mean?

“In practise, it provides for an inclusive civic engagement with city management, where people have the power to decide on policy proposals and politicians assume the role of policy implementers, hence fostering participatory democracy with solidarity and social justice. Such a commitment translates locally into an improvement in the quality of life of all residents.”

A decorative line art graphic at the top of the slide, featuring a blue line with circular markers and a green area with a light blue shadow, set against a teal background.

One way this accomplished is by localizing and implementing the **Sustainable Development Goals**

Let's look at SDG 2 



SDG 2: Zero Hunger

End Hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture



- 2.1** End hunger and ensure access by all people, particularly poor and vulnerable
- 2.2** End all forms of malnutrition
- 2.3** Double agricultural productivity of small scale, women, indigenous, etc. farmers
- 2.4** Implement resilient agricultural practices
- 2.5** Maintain genetic diversity of seeds, plants, and animals

For our purposes, we will focus on the application of targets 1-4 in Dayton, OH



2.1

To qualify for food assistance for USDA, must be below 200% of the federal poverty level, leaving many people without assistance

2.2

2014-2015 Food Research and access report ranks Dayton the second of 25 cities in terms of food hardship for households with children

2.3

A 1% shift of grain acres to specialty food crops would increase production of food specialty crops by 312%, increasing local food production dramatically

2.4

Most regions (in Ohio) now see at least 5 or more heavy rain events (1/2-2" a day) than in 1950, some areas as many as 10

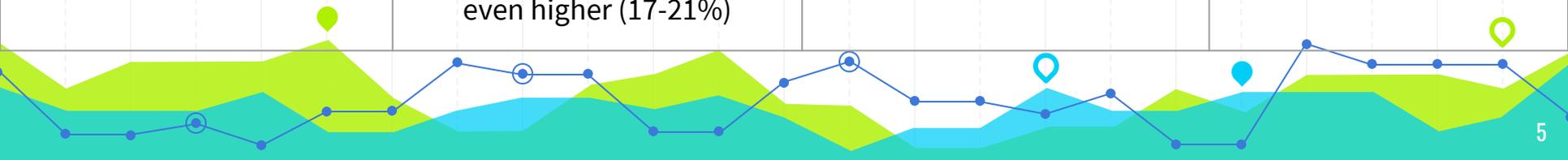
The Food Bank provided services to 66,000 seniors in 2015

93,210 people struggle with food insecurity, 26,350 are children

1-1.5 degree difference in annual average temperature change in South West Ohio

1/4 veterans from Afghanistan and Iraq report food insecurity

Overall, food insecurity rates in the Miami Valley range from 12-17%; and the child food insecurity rates (FIR) are even higher (17-21%)





The US has signed only a few international human rights documents:

*Committee Against Torture
Convention on the Rights of the Child*
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*

How do these documents relate to the SDGs?

The Danish Institute for Human Rights has compiled a Human Rights Guide to the Sustainable Development Goals, which allows you to explore how each SDG is related to a number of international human rights.

Of the documents the US has signed, SDG 2 most closely aligns with articles of the CRC





There are multiple efforts to address food justice in Dayton:

*Gem City Market
Hall Hunger Initiative
Public Health Dayton and Montgomery Co.
East End Community Services
Food Equity Coalition
Patchwork Gardens
Mission of Mary
FoodRX
Etc.*

*How can the impact of these efforts be augmented/complimented?
One advocacy idea is to further integrate regional food producers into the network established by urban food security organizations.*



To become a Human Rights City, Dayton must align its laws and policies with human rights principles. The Sustainable Development Goals provides a thorough and concise outline of these principles.

We have researched local issues, aligned them to each SDG and target, and connected them to the appropriate international human rights documents. Through this process, we have learned to localize international human rights documents and articles, become more connected through our community through a unique and meaningful lens, and gained a greater understanding of the utility of the SDGs. Hopefully, this research has laid the groundwork to mobilize Dayton to become a Human Rights City.



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