2003 UN Common Understanding on Human Rights-Based Approach to Development: **What**
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CPR Informal Briefing on the human rights-based approach

Welcome

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What is the Human Rights-Based Approach to Development?
The United Nations is founded on the principles of peace, justice, freedom and human rights

**2003 Statement of Common Understanding**

1. **Goal:** All programmes of development co-operation, policies and technical assistance should further the realisation of human rights as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

2. **Process:** Human rights standards contained in, and principles derived from, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments guide all development cooperation and programming in all sectors and in all phases of the programming process.

3. **Rationale:** Development cooperation contributes to the development of the capacities of ‘duty-bearers’ to meet their obligations and/or of ‘rights-holders’ to claim their rights.
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We will not enjoy security without development; we will not enjoy development without security, and we will not enjoy either without respect for human rights

[Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan]
Human rights principles guide all phases of the programming process, including:

- assessment and analysis
- programme planning and design
- implementation
- monitoring and evaluation

Human rights principles:
- Universality and inalienability
- Indivisibility
- Inter-dependence and Inter-relatedness
- Equality and Non-discrimination
- Participation and Inclusion:
- Accountability and Rule of Law
The process, including:

- assessment and analysis
- programme planning and design
- implementation
- monitoring and evaluation
Result: Sustainable urban development

Necessary, specific, and unique elements to a human rights-based approach

1. Assessment and analysis in order to identify the human rights claims of rights-holders and the corresponding human rights obligations of duty-bearers as well as the immediate, underlying, and structural causes of the non-realization of rights.

2. Programmes assess the capacity of rights-holders to claim their rights, and of duty-bearers to fulfill their obligations. They then develop strategies to build these capacities.

3. Programmes monitor and evaluate both outcomes and processes guided by human rights standards and principles.

4. Programming is informed by the recommendations of international human rights bodies and mechanisms.
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Result:
Sustainable urban development
The norms and values embedded in the Millennium Declaration and international human rights instruments must continue to provide the foundation for engagement [in the post-MDG Agenda], in particular the key human rights principles of non-discrimination, meaningful participation and accountability

Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General
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