UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM STAFF COLLEGE

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ONLINE

01 JAN 2026 - 31 DEC 2026

The UN at Country Level

Sustainable development and the SDGs

UN Development System and Country Programming



LANGUAGE
English

DURATION
Approx 2 hours 30 minutes

ENROLL BY
31 Dec 2026

PRICE
Free

LOCATION
ONLINE

TARGET
Everyone

CONTACT sustainable-development@unssc.org

The UN at Country Level is a self-paced online learning module designed to strengthen understanding of how the United Nations operates at country level and supports countries in advancing sustainable development and responding to complex challenges.

Through ten interactive lessons, the module introduces key UN structures, actors, coordination mechanisms and operational approaches at country level, combining concise content with videos, case studies, practical examples, knowledge checks and additional resources.

Introduction

The United Nations' work at country level brings together a diverse range of entities, mandates and expertise to support national priorities and respond to increasingly complex development, humanitarian and peace-related challenges.

Understanding how this system operates is essential for effective collaboration and coordination. *The UN at Country Level* provides learners with a structured introduction to the UN's operational presence at country level, helping them navigate its key actors, mechanisms, mandates and ways of working.

The module uses practical examples and country-level cases to connect institutional knowledge with the realities of UN operations.

Course methodology

The module follows a **self-paced, interactive online learning approach** combining conceptual content with practical application.

Learners progress through ten lessons using a variety of learning formats, including short explanatory texts, videos, flipcards, interactive case studies, knowledge checks, visual content and links to additional resources.

Country-level examples and case studies are integrated throughout the module to connect concepts with practice. These include examples of Voluntary National Reviews, Resident Coordinator experiences, Humanitarian-development-peace collaboration, Flash Appeals, Multi-Partner Trust Funds, implementation modalities and partnerships with the private sector.

The learning design also incorporates reflection and knowledge checks to reinforce understanding and allow learners to engage actively with the content.

Course contents

The module consists of the following **10 lessons** covering key aspects of the United Nations' operational work at the country level:

Lesson 1: UN Mandates and Legal Foundations

Lesson 2: Understanding the UN Operational System

Lesson 3: The UN Set-up at Country Level

Lesson 4: Funding the UN and its Operational Activities

Lesson 5: Designing Country Programmes

Lesson 6: Managing Country Projects

Lesson 7: Accountability and Oversight

Lesson 8: Working With Partners at Country Level

Lesson 9: Headquarters Coordination and Support

Lesson 10: Food for Thought: Supporting UN Reform

Target audience

The UN at Country Level is open to anyone seeking to deepen their understanding of the United Nations system and how it operates at the country level.

The course is designed for a broad audience, including UN personnel, government officials, development practitioners, civil society representatives, students, researchers and anyone interested in learning about the UN's structures, mandates, coordination mechanisms and operational activities at country level.

No prior experience working with the United Nations is required.

Cost of participation

This course is offered free of charge.