

SOCIETY for INDUSTRIAL and ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

SCIENCE FOR A SMARTER WORKPLACE



SIOP at the United Nations

Global Work Psychology Marathon 19 September, 2025

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What would happen if every work psychologist in the world took action to make the world a better place for everyone?



The UN - Important and Complex!



"One place where the world's nations can gather together, discuss common problems and find shared solutions" Founded in **1945**; currently made up of **193** Member States and with six primary organizations:

- UN Secretariat
- General Assembly
- Security Council

- ECOSOC
- International Court of Justice
- Specialized Agencies

ECOSOC (Economic & Social Council): 54 rotating member states; central forum for development, economic, and social issues

- 6,000+ NGOs hold consultative status, giving civil society organizations (like SIOP) a voice in shaping global solutions

Global Agenda: 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Agreed August 2015 with the goal to be achieved by 2030

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





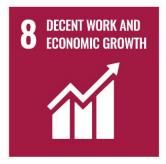
































About SIOP & the UN Committee

Division 14 (Industrial and Business Psychology) of the American Psychological Association founded in 1945; Society for Industrial & Organizational Psychology (SIOP) established in 1982 in the US

UN Committee focuses on applying theory, research, and practice of our field to assist the UN to achieve its programs and goals

How we do it:

- educating UN stakeholders on work/I-O psychology practice
- applying high-quality work/I-O solutions to problems facing the UN
- developing position statements to be leveraged by the UN
- responding to requests to assist the UN

Key Milestones



How we Engage as an NGO

01	Innovation & Learning Series	 Workshops for UN HR personnel led by SIOP experts (e.g. selection assessment by Dr. Nancy Tippins, AI in selection, values assessment)
02	Sounding Boards	Working sessions with UN teams to brainstorm, refine, and provide feedback on initiatives
03	Literature Reviews & Recommendations	 Evidence-based summaries of research & best practices to guide UN policies and programs (e.g., organizational culture change white paper, contribution to volume "Sustainable Development Through the World of Work")
04	Consultative Work	 Leadership competencies for UNICEF Performance management review at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Partnered with the Psychology Coalition of NGOs Accredited at the United Nations to enhance organizational effectiveness, teaming, and goal setting
05	Knowledge Sharing	 Created opportunities for SIOP experts to present tools and practices directly to UN staff Expanded internship program to bring students into UN projects

Our Goals

- 1. Leverage I-O Psychology theory and practice to educate and guide UN Staff in alignment with SIOP's Mission and Strategy
 - a. Focus on three SDGs: #3 Good Health and Well-Being, #8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, and #10 Reduced Inequalities
- 2. Educate, publicize, and encourage discussions with SIOP members and the public to build awareness of how I-O research and practice is related to and can contribute to achieving the SDGs
- 3. Increase our impact by strengthening purposeful collaborations with entities in the UN, the psychology community, and within SIOP

SIOP UN Focus on SDGs for 2025-2026





































Some of Our Insights

We must activate Work Psychologists globally to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

- Act with urgency: 35% of SDG targets are on track; half moving too slowly; and 18% are in reverse
- Bridge capability gaps: Many UN bodies & NGOs lack STEM & leadership capabilities to drive initiatives
- Bring our science: Help fill critical gaps in measurement, evaluation, talent management, and behavior change, directly tied to SDG success

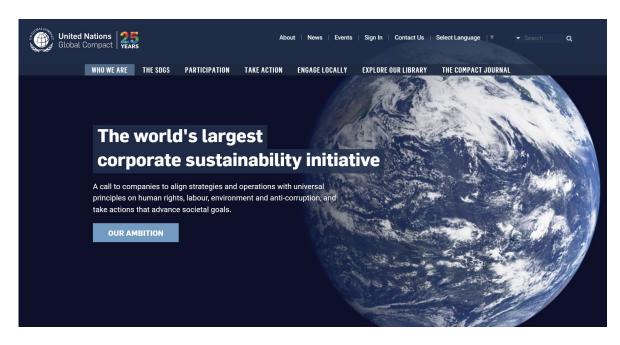
Work Psychologists must practice Leadership and Collaboration

- Relationships drive progress: Building trust with UN staff & partner NGOs is critical
- Credibility matters: Evidence-based insights and expertise open doors; credibility must be
 established and sustained
- Patience pays off: UN processes move slowly, meaningful engagement takes years

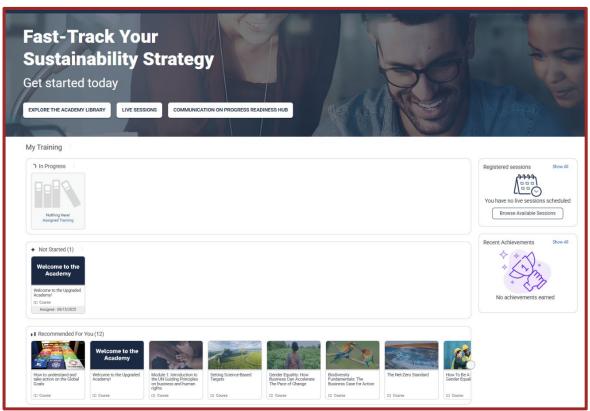
Let's activate every work psychologist in the world to make the world a better place for everyone



Get Involved with the Global Compact!



Companies of all sizes, associations, and non-profits can join the Global Compact in their country



Access free learning Resources for Sustainability Strategy; more for members

Act Today - Accelerate your own Journey



Let's use our expertise & skills to make the world a better place for all people and our planet!



Take Action Today

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

THINGS TO DO



Find a Goal 3 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!



Vaccinate yourself and your kids.

Protecting your family from disease also aids public health.



Place yourself on the organ and tissue donors' registry in your country.



Donate your blood. Safe blood saves lives!

As a Work Psychologist:

Advocate for good health and well-being practices in your workplace and with your clients

Role model effective ways to manage stress and speak about why this is important at work

Take Action Today

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

THINGS TO DO

- Find a Goal 8 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!
- Be a conscious consumer if something is cheap it is likely to be hurting people or the planet in some way.
- Read about workers in other countries and business practices. Talk to your colleagues about these issues.
- Stay informed. Follow your local news and stay in touch with the Global Goals online or on social media at @TheGlobalGoals.

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

- Organize a mentoring program. Invite people with experience in a certain field to create a mentoring group that will help young people better prepare for their future jobs.
- Know your rights at work. In order to access justice, knowing what you are entitled to will go a long way.
- Buy from local producers. Support local economic growth by choosing to buy from local producers and businesses.

As a Work Psychologist:

Volunteer to design programs to upskill or retool economically disadvantaged groups in your local community

Get involved in figuring out the impact of Al on work and ensure equitable access and impact

Take Action Today

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and among countries

THINGS TO DO

- Find a Goal 10 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!
- Does everyone at your place of work have access to healthcare? Find out what your rights are to work. Fight against inequality.
- Raise your voice against any type of discrimination.

 Everyone is equal regardless of their gender, race, sexual orientation, social background and physical abilities.
- Run a voting registration campaign. One of the issues contributing to rising inequalities is caused by the lack of representation of minorities and underprivileged groups in government. You can run a voting registration education in these groups to raise their engagement and representation in institutions of power.
- Visit local shelters, orphanages or minority community centers and organize a conversation space to discuss the importance of these rights or volunteer there regularly.
- Support migrants and refugees in your communities.

 Volunteer in a local refugee camp. Gather or donate the appliances, food, clothes needed.
- Favor companies that are inclusive. Check the lists of the companies that are inclusive for different minorities through employment there or their products.
- Stay informed. Follow your local news and stay in touch with the Global Goals online or on social media at @TheGlobalGoals.

As a Work Psychologist:

Advocate for science-based assessments that improve objectivity and fact-based judgments in hiring and promotions

Speak out against any forms of discrimination observed

How can we have greater impact together?

What support do you need to take action?



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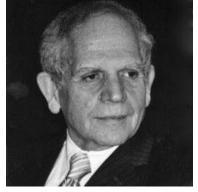
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Resources

Homepage of SIOP & The UN

United Nations Website

- 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- UN Global Compact and The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact
- UN Audiovisual Library with thousands of videos on UN presentations, speeches, etc.
- The Six Organizations of the United Nations
- Detailed Information about ECOSOC
- History of the United Nations
- Overview of all UN-Related Organizations

