

# The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio: A Landmark for Sustainable Development

The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio, also known as Agenda 21, is a comprehensive plan of action to achieve sustainable development. It was adopted by 178 countries at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. Agenda 21 outlined a comprehensive vision for a sustainable future, including specific goals and targets for economic development, social development, and environmental protection.

The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio was developed in response to the growing recognition of the need for sustainable development. The Brundtland Commission, a commission established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1983, defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Earth Summit in Rio was convened to discuss the challenges of sustainable development and to develop a plan of action. The summit brought together world leaders, scientists, and environmentalists from around the world. Agenda 21 was the result of the summit's deliberations.



## Agenda 21: Earth Summit: The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio by United Nations

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

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Agenda 21 is based on the following principles:

- **Equity:** Sustainable development must be based on equity, both within and between generations.
- **Integration:** Sustainable development must integrate economic, social, and environmental considerations.
- **Precaution:** Sustainable development must take a precautionary approach to environmental protection.
- **Participation:** Sustainable development must involve the participation of all stakeholders.

Agenda 21 sets out a number of goals for sustainable development, including:

- **Economic development:** Agenda 21 calls for economic development that is sustainable, equitable, and efficient.
- **Social development:** Agenda 21 calls for social development that is equitable, just, and participatory.
- **Environmental protection:** Agenda 21 calls for environmental protection that is comprehensive, integrated, and effective.

Agenda 21 is a voluntary agreement, and it is up to each country to implement it. Many countries have developed national strategies for sustainable development that are based on Agenda 21. The United Nations has also established a number of programmes and initiatives to support the implementation of Agenda 21.

Agenda 21 has been a landmark agreement for sustainable development. It has helped to raise awareness of the need for sustainable development and it has provided a framework for action. Agenda 21 has also influenced the development of many national and international policies and programmes.

Agenda 21 is a living document, and it is constantly being updated and revised. The United Nations is currently working on a new set of sustainable development goals that will build on the legacy of Agenda 21. These new goals will be adopted at the Sustainable Development Summit in 2015.

The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio is a landmark agreement that has helped to shape the global agenda for sustainable development. Agenda 21 has provided a framework for action that has been used by countries around the world. The legacy of Agenda 21 will continue to influence the development of sustainable development policies and programmes for years to come.

We all have a role to play in achieving sustainable development. We can make choices that are sustainable, we can support businesses that are sustainable, and we can advocate for policies that promote sustainable

development. Let us all work together to create a sustainable future for ourselves and for generations to come.

- [The United Nations Programme of Action from Rio](#)
- [The Brundtland Commission Report](#)
- [The Earth Summit in Rio](#)



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