In Spotlight

UNO Tbilisi marked UN Day by unveiling an art installation of a Rubik’s Cube that features the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on Rustaveli Avenue, the central avenue in Tbilisi. The idea of the Rubik’s Cube was born out of the desire to help people imagine how many possibilities can result from the SDGs and think of all the ways those goals can interact. Like the Cube, the goals are interrelated and complex. One cannot address one goal, without simultaneously addressing the others. The company Flit helped turn an idea into reality. The installation will be on display till 24 November 2016. Apart from the installation, 100 toy Rubik’s Cubes were produced and disseminated.

¿Did you know?

This year to mark UN Day, UNICs reached over 95,000 people via social media, websites, and outreach events, and millions of others via radio and TV interviews.

Sights @ Work

Egypt: For UN Day, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry lit up its landmark office tower overlooking the Nile River with the world organization’s two-letter acronym “UN” displayed on the entire building’s front.

Senegal: To mark UN Day, the UN Country Team in Dakar organized a bus tour in the city to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The tour was broadcast through social media, UN staff led by UNIC Dakar went all over the city and its suburbs in a bus fully decorated with SDGs logos.

Switzerland: UN Geneva commemorated UN Day by inaugurating Cristóbal Gabarrón’s art installation, “Enlightened Universe”. Originally created for the UN’s 70th anniversary, “Enlightened Universe” is comprised of 70 life-size figures joined in hand around a globe, in celebration of UN values. Geneva is its first stop in Europe after the inaugural exhibition in New York.
In Teams @ Work

Algeria

The UN System in Algeria celebrated UN Day in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and organized a ceremony within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Activities included a launch of the National Report on the Millennium Development Goals; the distribution of a video on the SDGs; and a photo exhibition organized by UNIC with photographs illustrating highlights and memorable moments of the cooperation between the UN and Algeria, 19 and 24 October.

Armenia

UNO Yerevan together with the UN Communications Group and the Resident Coordinator’s (RC) office marked UN Day with the following activities: traditional flag raisings; a digital photo display showcasing winning photographs from the six-year partnership between UNIC and Canberra Institute of Technology and the photography competition which is organized for photography students; and a flag raising ceremony carried out by the Australian Federation Guard and the Australian Federal Police, with the band of the Royal Military College Duntroon providing musical accompaniment for the evening.

Austria

UNIS Vienna marked UN Day with a Cine-ONU screening of Bring the Sun Home, in partnership with Top Kino, this human world film festival, the Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN in Vienna and the National Committee for UN Women Austria. A publication on the work of the UN and the UN family in Vienna to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals was in the Austrian daily Wiener; an interview with UNIS Vienna Director and an on-line story on the UN family in Vienna “Inside UNO-City”; attendance at an annual UN Day ceremony held at the American International School in Vienna; and guided tours promoting the theme of UN Day among visitors.

Bahrain

UNIC Manama, working in close coordination with the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, organized the following activities to commemorate the UN’s 71st anniversary: field trip to the UN House for students from various public schools in Bahrain organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Education; briefing at the AMA International University on the role of the UN by UN officials; press conference highlighting the Sustainable Development Goals and the steps being taken at the national level to ensure their implementation; and a reception highlighting the UN Development Programme’s work for persons with disabilities.

Bangladesh

The UN Country Team, supported by UNIC Dhaka and the UN Communications stations and news agencies by the UN RC and UNO; translation and dissemination of the Secretary-General’s message; official UN Day reception with Government and partners with the 71/17 poster at the reception; posting of materials on social media and website, and 17 days of social media public awareness on SDGs.
Group, organized a UN Day reception with the participation of the Foreign Minister, heads of UN agencies and partners; a UN Day children art contest and rally jointly organized by UNIC and partner NGOs; a workshop/seminar at Dhaka University organized by UNIC and UN Youth and Students Association of Bangladesh; radio interview with Bangladesh Betar by the National Information Officer and UN Office for Drugs and Crime representative; UN Day newspaper supplements in Prothom Alo and Daily Star by the UN Resident Coordinator’s (UNRC) Office, supported by UNIC and the UN Communications Group in Belarus; translation of UN Secretary-General’s message into Bangla for media use; TV discussion by the UNRC telecast by NTV on 24 October, arranged by UNIC Dhaka.

Belarus

The UN in Belarus held a tree planting ceremony and launched the information campaign “Inclusive Belarus: leaving no one behind in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” with the UN Resident Coordinator and Belarusian Deputy Foreign Minister as well as representatives of the diplomatic corps and international organizations; UN Communications Team in Belarus and UNO Minsk produced and screened a special Public Service Announcement “Inclusive Belarus” with participation of UN Belarus goodwill ambassadors, advocates and volunteers of the campaign which was at a UN Day concert where the song “Week in Rap Extra. Sustainable Development Goals” was presented in Belarusian.

Belgium

For UN Day, the Brussels City Hall was turned blue and flew the UN flag; “Back to school” outreach initiative by the UNRIC Benelux Desk with the UN team in Belgium, along with the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UN Association (UNA) on the work of the UN and the Sustainable Development Goals with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participating; a cooking show on TV with a famous chef cooking – for a whole week - meals with pulses in the context of the International Year of Pulses; and an event at the Flemish Parliament by the "Centre International de Formation des Autorités et Leaders" Flanders/UN Institute for Training and Research hosted together with the Flemish UNA and UNRIC featuring a concert by Ozark Henry, National Goodwill Ambassador against human trafficking.

Brazil

UNIC Rio de Janeiro celebrated UN Day with a four-minute long video, showing UN Agencies and testimonies of people who benefited from UN actions across the country which was posted on social media. UNIC also translated into Portuguese and published 17 messages for the UN Day and the 17 goals.

Burkina Faso

The UN system in Burkina Faso, in partnership with the Government, organized an official ceremony; a UN flag rising and reception; an exhibition of brochures, films and photos attended by 8,200 visitors; a public conference organized by UNIC, in partnership with the University of Ouagadougou, with more than 300 participants; and a town hall combined with UN Staff Day, 20 to 25 October.

Cameroon

The UN System and Cameroon Government commemorated UN71 under the theme “Implementing the SDGs: Cameroon and the UN united in humanitarian action to leave no one behind” with the following events: interview of UN officials on national TV; a press conference by the UN Resident Coordinator on the “UN Response to Humanitarian Challenges and Development in Cameroon: 2016 Report”;conference on “Management of the Humanitarian Issues in Cameroon: The Civil Society Viewpoint”; and a sports walk for the Sustainable Development Goals in major streets of Yaoundé.
Colombia

The UN System in Colombia celebrated UN Day in Bogotá at the "Bike Path" with the slogan “The SDGS: Take the ciclovia” (a traditional 4-km bikeway in Bogotá). There was also a "Selfie with SDGs" contest where bikers took pictures of themselves to post on social media. At the end of the event, the UN Resident Coordinator and the Head of the UN Colombian Mission in the country spoke, highlighting the importance of society to embrace Agenda 2030 as a goal for all, 23 October.

Congo (Republic of)

The UN Country Team, in partnership with the Foreign Affairs Ministry, held an official UN Day ceremony which gathered more than 500 people and included screening of two UNIC-produced documentaries highlighting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recipients of UN actions in the country. UNIC also drafted an op-ed on SDGs that was published in the national daily newspaper, one week before the UN Day. On UN Staff Day, 150 UN Agencies staff received preventative onchocerciasis and filariasis treatment as part of a worms elimination campaign. Both UN Day and UN Staff Day were well covered by the media.

Egypt

The UN Communications Group, led by UNIC Cairo, and in close collaboration with both the Resident Coordinator's Office and the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized an event at the Egyptian Diplomatic Club, featuring a photo exhibition showcasing UN projects and operations in Egypt. The attendees included the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs and other Egyptian Cabinet ministers, members of the diplomatic community, NGOs, UN Goodwill ambassadors as well as media editors, 2 November.

France

The UN Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) French Desk Officer held a briefing at the French School of Brussels about the Organisation, in the context of the “Back to School” campaign leading up to UN Day. The Centre plans to continue reaching out to more people and spreading the message of hope that is carried by Agenda 2030.

Georgia

UNO Tbilisi marked UN Day with the following activities: distribution of leaflets about the SDGs in Georgian language to the public; TV and Radio spots; Resident Coordinator’s interview on the Imedi TV breakfast show, covering several issues including the SDGs; UN4U and information sessions for students from high schools and universities across the country, which featured panel discussions and roundtables on the SDGs and on several topics of priority to Georgia and the UN, capped with a lecture given by the UN Resident Coordinator at the UN House on 24 October.

Ghana

The UN system in Ghana, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, and other partners organized a series of activities including: a peace walk to raise awareness of the need to ensure peace, especially as Ghana is heading towards elections in December; a national parade and flag-raising ceremony attended by UN staff, government officials, members of the diplomatic community; junior high school students Model UN session to simulate the UN General Assembly; a photo exhibition visualising the UN’s historical milestones, both globally and in Ghana; and several
outreach activities in the first week of November by the UN Communications Group and the Ghana UN Students Association, 22 October to November.

**Greece**

The UN family in Athens, together with the Greek Government and the City of Athens, marked UN Day with the UN and Greek Flag ceremony at the sacred hill of Acropolis, attended by heads of agencies as well as representatives of the Greek government, local authorities and the UN staff association in Greece. Also, the UN Regional Information Centre’s Desk Officer for Greece gave several lectures to 200 students of the University of Athens and 100 students of the Athens University of Economics and Business on the UN and its work, the Sustainable Development Goals and employment/internships opportunities with the Organization, 22 to 28 October.

**India**

UNIC New Delhi joined the UN Country Team in recognizing India’s innovators who are helping transform the lives of people in the country. Innovators from government, private sector, civil society, and educational institutions from around the country shared their innovations that will help India to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. UNIC organized for two spectacular innovations to be showcased: an e-Toilet that is totally eco-friendly and generates no waste; and a cutting edge drone technology that would provide WIFI to India’s villages. UNIC moderated the event that was attended by over 500 guests. X-PRIZE and the Government of India were partners in the UN Day event.

**Indonesia**

UNIC Jakarta organized a series of events to commemorate UN Day in Indonesia including: an international seminar on “Indonesia-UN Collaborative Action: Strengthening Stakeholder Partnership for Sustainable Development” opened by the Foreign Minister; an art exhibition “Art with Purpose: Bringing Global Goals to Indonesia through Art” at the National Museum featuring evocative works by 22 multi-generational artists in media as varied as film, live performance, sculpture and mixed media on themes such as climate change and the environment, women’s empowerment; and a Turn Indonesia UN Blue visual campaign, where Jakarta’s National Monument, Bandung’s Gedung Merdeka and Gedung Sate and Yogyakarta’s Prambanan temple compounds were lit up in UN blue, 24 to 30 October.

**Japan**

UNIC Tokyo celebrated UN Day and the 60th anniversary of Japan’s accession to the UN with an award ceremony for its student photo contest titled “My View on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” organized in partnership with Sophia University, an Academic Impact university, and with special support from Getty Images Japan. At the ceremony which rounded off the first SDGs-themed photo contest among the network of 63 UN information centres of the Department of Public Information, Nicolás Monteverde Bustamante from Peru, whose submission was selected from 622 international entrants, received the First Prize from Japan’s Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida. Following the ceremony, a world renowned photographer Leslie Kee and a Japanese popular singer Yu Hayami
discussed how promoting the SDGs through art and creativity can be improved. UNIC Tokyo Director’s special interview with Kenzo Oshima, Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN was also featured in The Japan Times, Japan’s largest English-language paper.

Kenya

UNIC Nairobi, in collaboration with sister UN agencies in Nairobi, brought together more than 500 staff members, Government representatives, media and members of the diplomatic corps to celebrate UN/Staff Day at an event. Staff who have served in the UN for over 25 years were honoured for their tireless, and sometimes unnoticed efforts. The Director-General of the UN Office at Nairobi and UN Resident Coordinator jointly hosted the event. A Rwandese cultural musical group entertained the guests. The Day culminated in the naming of the winner of the 2016 UN in Kenya Award, Tegla Laroupe, who led refugees to the Olympic Games in Rio, 25 October.

Madagascar

The UN’s 71st anniversary was celebrated by the Malagasy Government and the UN System in Madagascar at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Anosy. The Minister of Foreign Affairs read out the Preamble of the 2030 Agenda, and UN representatives read out each one of the Sustainable Development Goals. A short film on the achievements of the UN System was also screened. The event had great media coverage and the Secretary-General’s message was broadcast on the national TV and radio channel.

Namibia

Under the theme "Partnerships and the Sustainable Development Goals," the UN in Namibia observed UN Day with an official event organized by the UN Communications Group under the leadership of UNIC Windhoek. The two-day event attended by Government officials among others featured an exhibition and photo gallery display, UN agencies and partners took the opportunity to showcase the impact of their work in the country. Digital displays highlighting agency specific content were screened to complement the agency booths. UNIC Windhoek coordinated tours for various educational institutions to enhance youth involvement. Publications, flyers, promotional and information material were distributed to the public. In addition, historic photographs dating back to Namibia’s independence and the UN Transition Assistance Group were also on display at a separate venue.

Nepal

UNIC Kathmandu took the lead of the UN Communications Group and coordinated several events including: a Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) art event involving 200 students from 17 schools in
which 17 art works representing each goal, were selected by the UN Country Team and were prominently displayed on the outer wall of the UN House; launch of an 8-month-long nationwide SDGs Roadshow campaign “Leaving No One Behind” on UN Day involving local government authorities, civil society, youths and media which was first initiated in the Far-West region of Nepal to raise awareness on SDGs among the local population; placement of the Resident Coordinator’s Op-ed and UN press release on UN Day in the media; coordinating a series of 17 SDGs articles and info-graphics between the UN SDGs Working Group, the UN Communications Group and Nepal’s most circulated English daily *The Kathmandu Post*; and coordinating with the UN Communications Group for maximum social media visibility of these activities.

**Netherlands**

On UN Day, the UN Regional Information Centre’ Director delivered a speech during the opening ceremony of the first European Sustainable Development Goals exhibition at the Museum, the science and culture museum of The Hague. A message by the Secretary-General was also on display. At the new permanent exhibition ‘One Planet’, visitors can discover the 17 SDGs. The exhibition consists of 17 interactive infotainment islands, one for each goal. The exhibition is mainly aimed at a family audience and has been tailored to the local audience.

**Nigeria**

The observance of UN Day in Nigeria involved three-days of activities that featured: four school outreach programmes in Lagos and Abuja; a symposium in Lagos; and a peak hour live radio interview on Radio Continental, Lagos. Over 1,000 people attended the programmes while millions were reached by the radio programme. UNIC Lagos made presentations on the UN and the Sustainable Development Goals and UN publications and brochures. The school outreach in Abuja was in partnership with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), while the symposium in Lagos was in collaboration with the UN Association of Nigeria.

**Peru**

The UN in Peru - led by UNIC Lima - celebrated UN Day by presenting the Sustainable Development Goals logos in Quechua, the native language of Peruvians from the Andes. The new “Peruvian logos” in Quechua were also illustrated by school students with Peruvian motifs. A group of selected students worked with Peruvian artist Ivan Palomino, winner of the Poster for UN Peace contest earlier this year, in the design of the logos. The logos were then presented to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and other authorities. The “Peruvian SDGs logos” were also featured in a two-page report in the nation-wide circulation newspaper “El Peruano”. On social media, a video-report produced by UNIC Lima reached over 16,000 people with almost 3,000 reproductions.

**Paraguay**

UNIC Asuncion organized a concert dedicated to students and teachers from the UN High School who also celebrated 40 years of the creation of their school, in one of the poorest areas of the Paraguayan capital. The National Symphony Ensamble, performed and the school brass band saluted the UN flag. Students also presented national outfits and exhibits from different countries of the world. The ceremony was attended by the Ministry of Education authorities, representatives of the UN Peace corps and UN staff.

**Philippines**

UNIC Manila marked UN71 with the inauguration of an exhibition on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) featuring cut-outs of Filipino celebrity SDGs advocates at the SM Mall of Asia, under the auspices of UNIC Manila’s partner, SM Prime Holdings. Gracing the event were Ambassador-Designate of the Philippines Mission to the UN, UN Resident Coordinator and the Assistant Secretary from the Office of the President. In the evening, the UN Communications
**Poland**

Group held a public event at the SM Mall of Asia with the theme, "Go for Goals." This event featured a symbolic kick-off and was graced by Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary, the diplomatic corps and UN partners.

**Senegal**

To mark UN Day, the UN Country Team in Dakar organized a bus tour in the city to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The tour was broadcast through social media. UN staffed by UNIC Dakar went all over the city and its suburbs in a bus fully decorated with SDGs logos. The staff met the local population and invited them to visit the bus to discuss the SDGs. There was also a hip hop song about the SDGs in Wolof performed by the young Senegalese artist, Ludovic Evora.

**Sudan**

UNIC Khartoum, in collaboration with the Government of Khartoum state, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the UN Association-Sudan and the Resident Coordinator’s Office, supported a flag-raising ceremony; provided support to a reception organized by the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator; organized photo booths in several universities including at the University of Medical Sciences and Technology, Al-Ahfad University for Women and the Future University, aimed at promoting the SDGs and UN Day. In collaboration with all UN entities in Sudan, UNIC also organized a public UN Day event at the National Museum in Khartoum and with the Resident Coordinator’s Office, coordinated and led the UN Communication Working Group event which included an exhibition and installations from all UN entities, and a concert featuring two of the biggest music bands in the country.

**Switzerland**

UN Geneva commemorated UN Day at the very heart of its host city, by inaugurating Cristóbal Gabarrón’s art installation, "Enlightened Universe", in a central location by the lakeside. Locals and visitors gathered to discover the monumental installation. Originally created for the UN’s 70th anniversary, "Enlightened Universe" is comprised of 70 life-size figures joined in hand around a globe, in celebration of UN values. Geneva is its first stop in Europe after the inaugural exhibition in New York.

**Tanzania**

UNIC Dar es Salaam supported the UN system in Tanzania during the commemoration of UN Day by coordinating a youth symposium for over
400 youths titled; “Tanzania’s Youth: Their role in Tanzania’s economic and social development”; educational outreach to students in schools and to a youth—out-of-school centre where discussions focused on youth and the Sustainable Development Goals; and an exhibition targeting hundreds of youths. UNIC staff also participated in TV and radio programmes and coordinated a media campaign for some senior UN staff to speak about the UN agenda, achievements and the UN Development Assistance Plan in Tanzania, 24 October.

Togo

The 71st anniversary of the UN was celebrated in Togo with a cocktail party with Government officials, the diplomatic corps in Togo, business entities, civil society partners and the private sector, as well as UN staff. The guests were entertained by three folk groups comprising of refugees living in Togo from Rwanda, Ivory Coast and Central African Republic. More than 150 people were present.

Tunisia

UNIC Tunis and the Tunisian Association for the UN (ATNU) jointly marked UN Day with an event that received substantial media coverage. While UNIC provided content focused on the global theme, including UN Day logo banners, a photo exhibition, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) branding material, ATNU paid tribute to the Late Mongi Slim, a former President of the UN General Assembly and a towering Tunisian political figure. In the run-up to the event, UNIC also coordinated a social media campaign with support from the UN Communications Group, distributed a press release highlighting the UN Day theme and the SDGs. The UN Resident Coordinator a.i. opened the event at the National Library premises which was attended by among others, a former President of Tunisia, Mr. Fouad Mabazaa.

Turkey

Through UNIC Ankara’s initiative, UN Day in Turkey was celebrated with a Presidential Symphony Orchestra performance in Ankara; Antalya and Çukurova Symphony Orchestra joint concerts in Adana; school outreach with students at Jale Tezer High School on the UN and the Sustainable Development Goals; and translation into Turkish of the Secretary-General’s UN Day message which was posted on its Facebook account reaching at least 6,510 users and getting over 200 likes.

Ukraine

The UN Communications Group, led by UNO Kyiv, marked the UN Day and UN Staff Day with the initiative “Do Social Good on the UN Day”, which resulted in the donation of 10 litres of blood to the Kyiv State Blood Centre which received significant TV coverage; a social media campaign to promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with involvement of 17 famous people in Ukraine including musicians, TV presenters, writers, film makers, etc.; a discussion at the Lviv Model UN during which participants of the conference learned about the SDGs and generated global, regional and local solutions for achieving the goals; creation of a video on the national SDGs consultations; and launching of a social media campaign “OneDayOneGoal” organized by the UN Youth Advisory Panel members with the support of UNO, aimed at promoting practical ways by individuals to achieve the SDGs.

United States

The UN in Washington celebrated UN Day with a series of month-long events including: bringing together the entire UN system in DC to speak at a major conference of the Women’s Missionary Society with more than ten heads of UN...
agencies; ten other talks given across the country by the UNIC Director and Deputy Director, including at a Gala dinner in California aimed to raise money for refugee children and awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); social media UN Day promotion on Twitter and Facebook and on UNIC’s newly launched website featuring “71 for 17”, a special UN71 homepage section, write-ups for the event page, and a UN Day photo gallery of people from DC with SDGs material.

Uzbekistan

UN Uzbekistan celebrated UN Day by producing a series of video clips where four successful women shared their stories on empowerment, which reached more than 58,000 views on social media platforms; a press conference with UN agencies accredited in Uzbekistan; a UN Day reception attended by national and international partners, where UNO Tashkent introduced a video documentary dedicated to the 71st anniversary showing the efforts of all UN agencies in the country; and setting up of UN stalls with information on the Sustainable Development Goals at the National Park, to raise awareness about the UN’s work locally and globally.

Zambia

UNIC Lusaka worked as part of the UN Communications Group in organizing UN Day celebrations. UNIC distributed information materials that included the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Report 2016 to over 400 high level guests, including senior government officials, who attended a UN Day reception hosted by the UN Resident Coordinator; and held a media breakfast on the SDGs where a youth group clad in SDGs attire with placards of all the 17 goals performed.

Zimbabwe

UN Day in Harare was organised by the UN Communications Group with the support of UNIC with an exhibition which saw the participation of 25 UN agencies. The UNIC exhibition included UN publications, handouts and posters on the Sustainable Development Goals. Guests included senior Government officials, diplomats, NGO representatives, UN Staff and students. UNIC also printed the UN 71–17 SDGs banner and mounted it in its tent, distributed UN Day Cards, SDGs rulers and pens to all visitors.

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