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Introducing SDG Module

The aim of this recently created module (March 2021) is to link the data structure of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG and 2030 Agenda targets) and the information architecture of CONSUL.

Following the methodology developed by the United Nations about the SDG, it is essential to link data structure and targets. This is due to the fact that the connection between the SDG indicators and any other data is based on a determined target. This data architecture is internationally applied and it allows for the highest level of interoperability between them.

A new module has been developed in order to implement this data architecture in CONSUL. This module makes it possible to set links between all system data models and the TARGETS and SDG.

CONSUL current version 1.2.0 is progressing continuously. SDG module development can be found in master\(^1\) branch and will take part of the next version 1.3.0.

1. Installing SDG Module

To install the SDG Module on CONSUL, the software must be updated to the latest version available. This must be currently updated within the master branch. Once version 1.3.0 is ready, it will need to be updated to the newest version.

The SDG module is developed on CONSUL core, and the following versions to 1.3.0 will include it already.

After updating the CONSUL version, the SDG module must be enabled by accessing Global Settings > Features > the option Enable SDG is at the end of the features list.

\(^1\) [https://github.com/consul/consul/](https://github.com/consul/consul/)
After enabling the module, a new setting option will appear, SDG Configuration, which allows for adding SDG feature to each of the CONSUL basic features.
2. Administration interface

Administration of the SDG Module

CONSUL has different independent interfaces to easily administer and manage every action in the platform. These interfaces are: Administration, Moderation, Valuation, and Management.

This module adds an extra interface, ‘SDG content’, to manage every content related to the SDG module.

Users with an Administration role have access to all of them, and additionally, can give access to other users to enter any of them. This way they can collaborate in process management in a decentralized and reliable way.

The following sections will explain the use of each interface within SDG content.

This interface can be accessed by a user with Administration role or by those user profiles that the Administration creates with permission to manage the SDG content section. The creation of this new specific role will enable the management of SDG portal by technical experts specialized in the field as an outsource to the Citizen Participation Department, who are usually in charge of managing the platform.

2.1. Goals and Targets
This section shows the list of all the 2030 Agenda global Goals and Targets.

### Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No Poverty</td>
<td>End poverty in all its forms, everywhere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Zero Hunger</td>
<td>Zero hunger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Good Health and Well-being</td>
<td>Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Quality Education</td>
<td>Quality Education.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.90 a day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate technology and financial services, including microfinance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>By 2030, ensure significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means of financing for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.A</td>
<td>Ensure significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means of financing for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New local targets defined by entities using CONSUL or by organizations related to participatory processes going on in CONSUL, can be added from the Local Targets tab.

This option also enables to possibility to edit or delete the Local Targets created.
The form to create new Local Targets must include the following information.

1. All Local Targets must be related to a Global Target.
2. Local Target code must show the target code followed by "." and a chosen code. Example: 1.1.3-MAD
3. A title
4. A description

Local Targets can be internationalized, so that they can be created in different languages.

2.2. SDG Homepage

This interface allows users to configure the public page displaying all the information about the SDGs in the portal, as well as navigating through the content related to them.

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2 Example. Global Target 1.1 Local Target of the organization related to it 1.1.a1 or 1.1.Mad (from Madrid), or the name chosen by the organization, always keeping the root of the global target.
The following features are available to configure this page, depending on the needs of every CONSUL installation:

1. SDG header.
2. Phases

The SDG header can be customized with these fields:

- Label (optional)
- Title
- Description
- Link text
- Link URL
- Image

In addition, headers can be internationalized by selecting a language for each one.

Similar cards to those available at CONSUL homepage can be classified under 3 categories within the phases section.

The name of each phase can be modified by using the translations file.

Cards allow the following settings:

- Label (optional)
- Title
- Description
- Link text
- Link URL
- Image
These settings can be internationalized. Each card can be written in any of the portal language. They can also be adapted by columns in order to customize the page according to the needs of CONSUL installation.

SDG page will look as follows after adding content.

Users accessing SDG page (/sdg/goals) will be able to navigate on a specific page for every SDG. Each page will display the following:

- Name and icon of each SDG, translated to the corresponding language of CONSUL installation. An automated translation system allows for the translation of previous content into other languages, if the administrators or users have not translated it yet.
- A descriptive text for each SDG. These texts have been taken from the United Nations website (www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment) or other related bodies, and they can all be translated.
- Most active proposals for each of the SDGs.
- Most popular debates for each of the SDGs.
- Participatory processes in each of the SDGs.
- Global targets of each SDG.
- Local targets of each SDG.

As other CONSUL views, this page is adaptable to CONSUL document recommendations regarding HTML View Customizing\(^3\).

HTML page can be modified by copying the HTML from app/views and placing it in app/view/custom while saving the existing subdirectory. For example, if you want to modify app/views/pages/conditions.html you must copy it and change it to app/view/custom/pages/conditions.html.erb.

Also, each of the content blocks (Most active proposals, Most active debates, and Processes) enables direct access to a general view of each one by using the corresponding filter to the selected SDG. These blocks alternatively show other SDGs when the content is linked to more than one SDG or Target.

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**Most active proposals**

*Change the city’s public transport ticket for easier transfers*

It is essential that there are facilities for intermodality. Changing public transport without paying more, in a long period (60 minutes at least), is basic.

[target 1.3] [target 5.1] [target 17.1]

*The right to play: for a more child-friendly city*

We want to improve public spaces for children to play. We propose clean, creative parks, play again in squares and streets (as before) and create a network of public toy libraries.

[target 1.2] [target 3.3] [target 4.5]

[See all proposals]

The view of the SDG homepage will look like this:

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\(^3\) [https://docs.consulproject.org/docs/spanish-documentation/customization/views_and_styles#vistas-html](https://docs.consulproject.org/docs/spanish-documentation/customization/views_and_styles#vistas-html)
2.3. Debates

The Administrator or the user profile with SDG management access can moderate the contents created in this section, which are aligned with SDGs.

All open debates in the portal are displayed and managed from here.
Non-reviewed debates are classified as ‘Pending’. The ‘All’ tab shows the full list of reviewed and non-reviewed debates, and the ‘Marked as viewed’ tab displays reviewed debates only.

SDG or Targets aligned to each entry can me modified by the Administration or SDG Management profiles by clicking on the Actions icon and editing the SDG and/or Target linked to it.

To manage them easier, entries can be filtered by SDG or Target, or searched by specific content.

2.4. Proposals

The Administrator or user profile with SDG management access, can moderate the contents created in this feature page, which are aligned with SDGs.

All proposals created through CONSUL Proposal module can be managed from this interface.

Non-reviewed proposals are classified as ‘Pending’. The ‘All’ tab shows the full list of reviewed and non-reviewed proposals, and the ‘Marked as viewed’ tab displays reviewed proposals only.

SDG or Targets aligned to each entry can me modified by the Administration or SDG Management profiles by clicking on the Actions icon and editing the SDG and/or Target linked to it.

To manage them easier, entries can be filtered by SDG or Target, or searched by specific content.
2.5. Polls

The Administrator or user profile with SDG management access, can moderate the contents created in this feature page, which are aligned with SDGs.

Polls alignment can be edited and managed from this interface.

2.6. Collaborative legislation

The Administrator or user profile with SDG management access, can moderate the contents created in this section, which are aligned with SDGs.

In this case, the content related to legislation processes.

2.7. Collaborative legislation proposals

The Administrator or user profile with SDG management access, can moderate the contents created in this section, which are aligned with SDGs.

Collaborative Legislation contains complex processes organized in different phases. One of them is the Proposal Phase, a period in which specific proposals are compiled to contribute to Legislation process. Those proposals can be managed in this interface in order to modify their alignment with the SDGs.
2.8. Participatory budgets

The Administrator or user profile with SDG management access, can moderate the contents created in this section, which are aligned with SDGs.

In this case, the content related to budgeting proposals associated to Participatory Budgets can be managed from this interface.

Non-reviewed budgets are classified as ‘Pending’. The ‘All’ tab shows the full list of reviewed and non-reviewed budgets, and the ‘Marked as viewed’ tab displays reviewed budgets only.

SDG or Targets aligned to each entry can be modified by the Administration or SDG Management profiles by clicking on the Actions icon and editing the SDG and/or Target linked to it.
3. Statistics based on SDG

A new interface has been added to the administrator page. This page allows for the visualization of statistics based on SDG. Statistics can be consulted by accessing an specific section in each of the participatory process groups by SDG.

4. User interfaces

4.1 Creating aligned content with the SDG and targets

4.4.1 Which content can users create and align with the SDG and targets?

CONSUL users can create different types of content through the multiple sections of the platform. Users can align most of the content with SDG and targets while creating it.
The following table compiles the content that users can align in each one of the CONSUL sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Type of content to align</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debates</td>
<td>Debate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participatory budgets</td>
<td>Investment proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Legislation</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.2 How to align content with SDGs and targets?

All forms for content creation, as explained in the previous section, include a widget (on the image) to facilitate the alignment of content by users.

To align content with SDGs, the user must simply click on the icon. To align the content with a target, users can search through the smart search engine available on the text box, or -if known- by entering the target code directly.

When users choose a SDG (by clicking on the icons) or a target (by introducing the target into the list box), a dialog box displays with a summary of their selection. To delete a SDG or target chosen, just click on the “x” placed next to that goal or target.
4.1.3 Help guide to align content with SDGs and targets

Users can find a help guide in /sdg/help to facilitate content alignment. This section is linked both to the widget described above and to the main help page of CONSUL.

This section explains the possibility of aligning content with Goals and targets, describes each of the 17 goals, and lists the different aims of each one of them, including Local Targets, if any.
4.2 Finding content related to a SDG and target

Users can find aligned content in the platform by following any of these 3 ways:

SDG section

SDG section in CONSUL allows users to navigate through the 17 goals and access content aligned with each of them.

Selecting filters in each section
There is a filter which displays the 17 goals in each of the CONSUL sections in which users can align content (Debates, Proposals, Collaborative Legislation, Participatory budgets). Users just click on a goal to access all the aligned content available in that section.

This filter appears on the right menu of the desktop page version, and at the bottom in the mobile version.

Content tags

When a content is aligned, a clickable tag is generated in it so that other similar content that is aligned with the same goal or target, can be accessed through it.
5. Integrating this guide to SDG manuals

This document outlines the use and management of the SDG Content section and the features of alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, linked to other existing sections of Consul (Debates, Proposals, Collaborative Legislation and Participatory Budgets).

There are 2 guides of Consul currently, the User’s Guide and the Administration Guide. This Guide is conceived as an appendix and integrates the updates and their effect in both roles. It is subject to reedition and will be incorporated to new guides in future version of Consul 1.3, which will include the SDG module.

Current version of Consul 1.2 does not incorporate this module, which does not mean that it cannot be integrated manually by the technicians of the user organization, who are responsible for managing the portal in operation and who may find great help in this Guide.