



## CHAPTER 10

# SDG 17; RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE UN 2030 AGENDA, CASE: RIESS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK<sup>1</sup>

**Rodolfo Martinez Gutierrez**  
Tijuana Institute of Technology, Mexico

**Gaudencio Lucas Bravo**  
National Technological Institute of Mexico, Mexico

**Luis Manuel Cerdá Suarez**  
International University of La Rioja, Spain

**Daniel Francisco Nagao Menezes**  
FACAM – Colleges of Campinas, Brazil

**Erico Wulf Betancourt**  
University of La Serena, Chile

**Ricardo Ernesto Morales Guerrero**  
Catholic University of El Salvador, El Salvador

**Juan Fernando Álvarez Rodríguez**  
Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Bogotá, Colombia

**Gladys Yazmín Cuéllar de Reyes**  
University of Panama, Panama

**Gastón Arce Cordero**  
National University, Costa Rica

**María Jesús Quirós**  
National Technical University, Costa Rica

**Rodolfo Arce Portugués**  
University of Costa Rica, Costa Rica

<sup>1</sup> **Como citar:** Martinez Gutierrez, R., Lucas Bravo, G., Cerdá Suarez, L. M., Nagao Menezes, D. F., Wulf Betancourt, E., Morales Guerrero, R. E., Álvarez Rodríguez, J. F., Cuéllar de Reyes, G. Y., Arce Cordero, G., Quirós, M. J., & Arce Portugués, R. (2026). SDG 17; research and development of the UN 2030 Agenda, case: RIESS International Network. En *Systemic development for sustainability: Case studies of QHS methodology and 2030 agenda in voluntary local reports (VLRs)* (pp. 199–210). Atena. <https://doi.org/10.22533/at.ed.727261102>

**ABSTRACT:** In the context of the research project carried out by the Tecnológico Nacional de México (TecNM) called: “Systematization and Regional Analysis of the Voluntary Local Reports (VLR) of the Mexico 2030 Agenda” and the Project duly authorized by the Secretariat of Science, Humanities, Technology and Innovation (SECIHTI), a project entitled: “The NATIONAL OBSERVATORY OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY PROJECTS, PRONACES, RESEARCH NETWORKS AND AGENDA 2030” will be developed in the Research Group Modality, with the active participation of the members of the Social and Solidarity Economy Research Network (RIESS Network) of the National Technological Institute of Mexico (TecNM) located on the Tijuana Campus, as well as with the collaboration of International Researchers. Under the outstanding national and international direction of the renowned researcher of the National System of Level 2 Researchers and coordinator of the graduate program, Dr. Rodolfo Martínez Gutiérrez, an extensive and exhaustive agenda of activities has been developed with the purpose of strengthening inter-institutional collaboration and academic connection at the national and global level. focused on issues such as the social economy, sustainability and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The RIESS Network (Social and Solidarity Economy Research Network and Agenda 2030) of the Tecnológico Nacional de México (TecNM) is an academic framework that unites multiple TecNM institutions and guest institutions in the RIESS Network under the same objective: to research and promote the social and solidarity economy in Mexico, with leadership from TecNM Tijuana, Since its creation in 2024, it has generated local, regional, national and international linkage actions with different institutions.

It is worth mentioning that in 2025 he received an invitation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Executive Secretariat of the 2030 Agenda of the Ministry of Economy of the Government of Mexico as a distinguished member of the Official Delegation of the Government of Mexico to the prestigious High-Level Political Forum (HLPPF) for the 2030 Agenda, the development of the international engagement agenda was extended to various countries, including Spain, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Brazil and Chile, with the aim of promoting and strengthening academic interaction in relation to the evaluation reports of the Sustainable Development Goals at the regional level.

This initiative seeks to replicate the successful experience carried out in the border city of Tijuana, through the outstanding work carried out by the Tijuana Sustainable Development Node (NODESS Tijuana) and the Network of Sustainable Higher Education Institutions (RIESS), as highlighted by the expert in the field. The

outstanding active participation of Dr. Rodolfo Martínez in this relevant international commission, strongly supported by the Mexican government authorities, has as its main objective to strengthen and promote the collaboration and global projection of prestigious academic groups, in order to establish solid strategic alliances in the field of higher education and the generation of innovative high-impact scientific initiatives developed in the field of higher education. Mexican territory [1].

## 2. METHODS AND MATERIALS

Among the outstanding actions of linkage and international cooperation, it is relevant to mention the Participation in the United Nations Organization (New York, United States): It was part of the Official Delegation of the Government of Mexico in the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), coordinated by the Mission of Mexico to the UN [2] on the 2030 Agenda where progress at the global level in the Sustainable Development Goals was addressed. see Figure 1.

Likewise, significant collaborations have been made in various countries in Europe and Latin America, promoting and promoting various projects and academic alliances in different countries such as Spain [3] (See Figure 2), El Salvador [4, 5] (See Figure 3), Costa Rica [6, 7, 8] see Figure 4, 5 and 6, Panama [8] see Figure 7, Colombia [9] see Figure 8, Brazil [10] see Figure 9 and Chile [11, 12] see Figure 10, with the laudable purpose of successfully replicating methodologies for evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and significantly strengthening regional cooperation. And finally, the excellent collaboration between the Executive Secretariat of the 2030 Agenda of Mexico and the RIESS Network [13] see Figure 11. Linkage with INAES dissemination mechanisms – NOVEDADESS [14] see Figure 13.



Figure 1. Attendance at HLPF 2025 at UN New York from Agenda 2030 [2].



Figure 2. Linkage between the RIESS Network and UNIR University in Spain [3].



Figure 3. Linkage between the RIESS Network and UNIR University in Spain [3].



Figure 4. Linkage between the RIESS Network and the National Technical University (UTN) of Costa Rica [6].



Figure 5. Linkage between Red RIESS and Universidad Braulio Carrillo (UBC) of Costa Rica [7].



Figure 6. Linkage between Red RIESS and Universidad Nacional (UNA) of Costa Rica [8].



Figura 7. Vinculación entre Red RIESS y Universidad de Panamá [9].



Figure 8. Linkage between Red RIESS and Potificia Universidad Javeriana de Bogotá, Colombia [10].



Figure 9. Linkage between Red RIESS and FACAM of Campinas in Brazil [11].



Figure 10. Linkage between Red RIESS and Universidad de la Serena de Chile [12].



Figure 11. Linkage between the RIESS Network and Mexico's 2030 Agenda [13].



Figure 12. TecNM's institutional support for the RIESS Network



Figure 13. Dissemination of RIESS Network activities in INAES' NovedaDESS [14].

### 3. RESULTS

The ambitious Voluntary Subnational Reporting (VSR) project has as its main objective to carry out an exhaustive analysis of the adequate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a total of 100 Mexican cities, thus establishing a significant connection at the international level. In addition, it seeks to promote the democratization of knowledge and the wide dissemination of best practices in this area that is so relevant for sustainable development. In this interesting context, the respected academic has placed special emphasis on the relevance of establishing connections between the activities of the project and international specialists, with the purpose of “enhancing the productivity rates of both consolidated researchers and emerging researchers of the RIESS Research Network, as well as of the academic groups involved, through collaboration agreements and the exploration of possibilities that result in benefits for the local region”.

Dr. Martínez was able to strengthen his connections at the global level with a variety of academics and authorities, including representatives of the Catholic University of El Salvador, the Pontificia Javeriana University of Bogotá (Colombia), the National University of Costa Rica, the National Technical University of Costa Rica, the Braulio Carrillo University (Costa Rica), the University of Panama, the University of La Serena (Chile), the Campinas University Center (Brazil) and the International University La Rioja (UNIR) in Spain.

## 4. CONCLUSIONS AND REFLECTIONS

The ISV project seeks to democratize knowledge and link international experts to implement the SDGs in 100 Mexican cities, led by the TecNM and Dr. Rodolfo Martínez. “We seek to carry out projects and publications that contribute to local development in areas such as sustainability and the social economy through the lines of research,” added Martínez, who is also the postgraduate coordinator at the TecNM.

It is important to note that the Tecnológico Nacional de México (TecNM) is an outstanding educational institution with an impressive number of more than 600,000 students enrolled in higher education and graduate programs throughout the country, with a total of 264 campuses and centers dedicated to research and innovation. This modern communications infrastructure effectively facilitates the link and coordination with the different City Councils located in the north, center and south of the Mexican territory. Within its policy of institutional linkage and intersectoral collaboration, a comprehensive and holistic approach to the Fifth Systemic Helix (QHS) has been actively promoted, which synergistically involves representatives of the Government, Academia, Companies, Associations-Chambers, Researchers and Consultants, thus enriching a methodological strategy of inclusion and citizen participation in all areas and segments of society.

In the course of its activities, the Tecnológico Nacional de México Campus Tijuana has carried out a wide variety of research projects related to the 2030 Agenda, establishing a detailed intervention model for the implementation of an Urban Sustainability Index that can be replicated through collaboration agreements in a number of more than 10 cities. with prospects of expansion to more than 100 locations between 2025 and 2028. The significant impact of the international link of the RIESS Network can be summarized in fundamental pillars that have strengthened its presence at the national level, strengthening the RIESS consolidating the leadership in the National Network of Research in Social and Solidarity Economy, these actions have allowed this network to have a national and international reach, connecting Mexican researchers with colleagues from other countries. See Figure 14.

1. SDGs and 2030 Agenda: Its projects seek to systematize voluntary local reports (VLRs) in Mexico and share experiences with other countries, contributing to the regional evaluation of the SDGs, such as SECIHTI’s project for 100 ISVs in 100 City Councils in Mexico, as well as the training of 1,000,000 students in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN 2030 Agenda [15, 16, 17, 18, 19].



Figure 14. Books and articles developed by the RIESS Network at regional, national and international level (Publications in Spanish, English, Portuguese and Chinese).

All of the above with the purpose of consolidating the Research Network to address national problems, through collaborative work from academia, government, companies, associations and researchers and consultants (QHS Methodology approach).

2. The leadership of the RIESS Network has achieved a strategic national and international link that combines participation in global forums (UN), academic alliances in Europe and Latin America, research stays abroad and publications in international conferences (See Figure 15). All this positions the RIESS Network as a benchmark in Mexico in issues of social economy, sustainability and international cooperation for the SDGs, to promote the development of new researchers from different regions of Mexico and internationally through cooperation, linkage and research projects.





Figure 15. Key institutions for 100 VLR project in 100 Cities through TecNM RIISS Research Network (2025 – 2027), and the city of Tijuana as a national reference [20].

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