



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Session on “Capacity development and partnerships to maximize the benefits of science, technology and trade for sustainable development”

Tuesday, 5 July 2022, 5:30 to 6 pm

Secretariat Background Note

Executive Summary

SDG17, on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development is the only Sustainable Development Goal that is reviewed annually by the HLPF ¹. Four of the key areas of SDG 17, namely finance, science, technology and trade, will be highlighted in two sessions in the afternoon of 5 July, building on ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development and ECOSOC Multistakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation, (STI).

This session, in fireside chat format, will focus on other two critical elements of SDG 17, namely, capacity building, and multi-stakeholder partnerships as key building blocks in an enhanced global partnership for sustainable development.

For example, to benefit from science, technology and innovation in pursuing the SDGs and their development objectives (target 17.6) and policy coherence (target 17.14), it is critical to build capacities of developing countries. SDG 17 (target 17.9) called for enhancing international efforts for implementing effective and targeted capacity-

¹ A/RES/70/299, op. 4



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building in developing countries to support national plans to implement the SDGs. Capacity development and support are also important for developing legislation related for various aspects of sustainable development and the rule of law, which is essential for achieving the SDGs.

Building capacity to support developing countries, including LDCs and small island developing States (SIDS), to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data (target 17.18) is also being addressed in SDG 17.

This can be done through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation. To help support capacity development objectives and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, countries need also to establish and mobilize multistakeholder partnerships that allow to build and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources (target 17.16), including public-private and civil society partnerships (target 17.17).

The fireside chat will discuss the impact of COVID-19 on capacity development activities and the lessons learned from the pandemic. Interventions will also outline emerging issues and current challenges to maximize benefits of multistakeholder partnerships and capacity building as the world is slowly emerging from the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic amidst a new global crisis in the area of food, energy access and other aspects.

Proposed guiding questions:

- How has the Covid-19 pandemic affected global solidarity and capacity building activities in areas related to sustainable development and elaboration of related legislation?



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- What type of capacity building and partnerships work best according to acquired experience in national statistical offices to improve high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data?
- How can multistakeholder partnerships be mobilized or re-energized towards achieving other goals under review at the 2022 HLPF (on education, gender, life on land and life under water) and ensure developing countries' access to science, technology, and innovation in a post-Covid setting? How can the private sector be encouraged to increase its engagement in partnerships?