



A RALLYING CRY FOR LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

Issue #4: June 2023

On 18-19 September 2023, world leaders will gather at the [SDG Summit](#) in New York for the mid-point review of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the implementation of its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Summit is expected to adopt a political declaration that will provide a roadmap for putting the world back on track to achieve the SDGs by their 2030 deadline. The Summit will be informed by the [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report](#) prepared by an independent group of scientists and the [2023 Special Edition of the SDG Progress Report](#) by the Secretary-General. More information about the 2023 SDG Summit is available on the website at: hlpf.un.org/sdg-summit.

The political process in the lead-up to the SDG Summit 2023

The Co-Facilitators of the political declaration of the SDG Summit, the Permanent Representatives of Ireland and Qatar, convened informal consultations on 16 May to hear delegations' initial views on the zero draft, which they issued on 8 May.

The reception of the zero draft was overwhelmingly positive. Groups and countries stated that the zero draft constituted a good basis for negotiations. There was a general agreement on the soundness of the format. Many delegations stated that the declaration should remain concise, ambitious and forward-looking. It was emphasized that the declaration should respond to the urgency of global circumstances.

There was support for enhancing consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, with delegations pointing to the need to address women in decision making, as well as to combat gender-based violence. There was support for recognizing the enabling quality of digitalization. Food security, access to water, social protection, cities and urbanization, biodiversity and oceans were among other issues highlighted.

The Co-Facilitators will convene consultations on 2 June to conduct a complete reading of the zero draft and hear detailed proposals.



Virtual informal stakeholder dialogue to solicit inputs to the zero draft political declaration

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), in collaboration with the UN SDG Action Campaign, will organize a [virtual informal stakeholder dialogue](#) on 7 June 2023, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (EDT).

The dialogue will create a space for an informal exchange with the Co-Facilitators of the intergovernmental process, the Permanent Representatives of Ireland and Qatar, and other stakeholders. It will also provide stakeholders from different constituencies and networks with an opportunity to share concrete inputs and suggestions for the [zero draft political declaration](#). The webinar will be webcast and the recording will be posted online.

Interested participants are asked to [register](#) for the event before 5 June 2023. For more information about the event, please visit: bit.ly/SDGSummitZeroDraft. Follow the livestream of the event on [Facebook](#).

Call for national commitments to SDG transformation

The Secretary-General has called on Member States to come to the SDG Summit to deliver a ‘Rescue Plan for People and Planet’ at the Summit, including by announcing national and global commitments that will help drive SDG transformation for inclusion and sustainability in the years ahead. As a follow-up, the Deputy Secretary-General has written to all Permanent Representatives of Member States and Permanent Observers of non-Member States to the UN to provide additional guidance to countries that are intending to put forward such commitments in September. A guidance note for Member States is available [here](#).


Key messages from the SDG Progress Report

The [Special Edition of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet”](#) was released on 25 April with a sobering message – at the half-way mark to 2030 only about 12 per cent of SDG targets are on track.

To motivate action and commitments that match the current conditions, the SDG Progress Report calls for a rescue plan for people and planet centered around five areas.

First, the Secretary-General urges Heads of State and Government to recommit to seven years of accelerated, sustained and transformative action, both nationally and internationally, to deliver on the promise of the SDGs. This includes support for all developing countries to advance SDG and climate action.

Second, is a call on governments to advance concrete, integrated and targeted policies and actions to leave no one behind. To eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and end the war on nature, with a particular focus on advancing the rights of women and girls and empowering the most vulnerable.



Third, is an appeal for governments to strengthen national and sub-national capacity, accountability and public institutions to deliver accelerated SDG progress.

Fourth, to ensure developing countries can deliver in the above areas, the Secretary-General encourages Member States to endorse and deliver an SDG Stimulus of \$500 billion per year between now and 2030.

Fifth, Member States are urged to facilitate the continued strengthening of the UN development system and to boost the capacity of the multilateral system to tackle emerging challenges and address SDG related gaps and weaknesses in the international architecture that have emerged since 2015.

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

The preparation for the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), held under the auspices of ECOSOC on 10-19 July 2023, is underway. Thirty-nine countries and the European Union will present their voluntary national reviews (VNRs) on their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The advance unedited versions of the [report of the Secretary-General](#) on the theme of the HLPF 2023, and the [Special Edition of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet”](#) and other documents are available on the [documentation page](#) of the HLPF website.

[Registration](#) for the Major Groups and other Stakeholders and NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC to the HLPF as well as UN System entities is open until 23 June 2023. Registration for official delegations of Member States, observers, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies and related organizations is open until 27 June 2023. For more information, please visit the [HLPF website](#).

In collaboration with key partners, UN DESA curates several high-profile special events during the HLPF to galvanize broad ownership and engagement from key sectors of society with the 2030 Agenda. Most of the Special Events are recurring every year under different themes. The 2023 Special Events will be held either fully in-person at the UN headquarters in New York or in a hybrid format. For more details, please check the [HLPF website](#) and [HLPF 2023 Special Events Flyer](#).

Fraudulent email warning

The Secretariat of the SDG Summit has been made aware of fraudulent emails that are being circulating regarding the SDG Summit, including preparatory events. Please consult the [SDG Summit website](#) for accurate details about the Summit and its preparations.

Sign up to the SDG Summit Newsletter

To receive the latest updates on the SDG Summit and how to get involved, sign up to our dedicated mailing list [here](#).