

SDG ACTION WEEKEND
16 & 17 SEPTEMBER 2023

Breaking Down the Barriers to Leave No One Behind



Organized by the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders

Background

This session aimed to shine a light on ways to overcome global challenges from the point of view of diverse civil society stakeholders and it also set out practical recommendations to accelerate action and leave no one behind towards 2030. Through a dialogue between diverse stakeholder groups with UN leadership and member states, the session unpacked the systemic barriers, and identified gaps for meaningful right holders' engagement in the implementation of the SDGs. It reflected on the priorities to achieve transformational change in the face of multiple and intersecting crises. It also offered clear proposals for effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda, grounded in community knowledge and practical proposals for a more sustainable, genuinely inclusive, human rights-based approach to development.

Key Issues

The dialogue included key opening inputs from *Deputy Secretary General, Amina Mohammed, Assistant Secretary General for Human Rights, Ilze Brands Kehris*, and the co-facilitator of the Political Declaration, *Ambassador Fergal Mythen, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN*

The subsequent dialogue took the form of 2 panels:

Panel 1: Building partnerships to leave no one behind

Included views on:

- Indigenous knowledge and rainforest partnerships from *María José Andrade Cerda, Yuturi Warmi, Kichwa community, Ecuador*
- Effective partnership working from: *Sarah Ryglewski, Minister of State to the Federal Chancellor, Germany*
- Practical steps for overcoming inequalities from diverse stakeholders- *Ruth Warick, President of the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People*



- Macro-economic transformation, overcoming debt and structural challenges- *Dereje Alemayehu, Executive Coordinator, Global Alliance for Tax Justice (Ethiopia)*

Panel 2: A Human Rights based approach to the 2030 Agenda

- Rights-based approach to the 2030 Agenda- *Carole Agengo, Help Age International*
- Opening up civic space, gender equality and enabling all communities to be heard in UN processes – *Elsa Marie DSilva, Red Dot Foundation*
- Proposals for delivering greater equity in sustainable development and a human rights economy- *Ajay Jha, Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON)*

Closing remarks by *Beena Pallical, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)*, *Arnold Puech d'Alissac, World Farmers' Organisation* and *Steve Letsike, Access Chapter 2*

The session was moderated by *Rashima Kwatra & Oli Henman MGOS Coordination Mechanism Co-Chairs*

Key Recommendations for Action

- Build partnerships based on community knowledge, ensuring that any new projects that are established to enable sustainable development, or to respond to the climate emergency, are built from the ground up and build on local experience including essential indigenous knowledge.
- Push for an effective new Financing for Development process which ensures debt cancellation and re-allocation of Special Drawing Rights to Least Developed Countries as well as tackling illicit financial flows.
- Tackle discrimination as well as the increasing levels of gender-based violence and inequality to ensure that all voices can be heard.
- Embed the delivery of the 2030 Agenda in the human rights framework of the UN and ensure that the rights of all stakeholders are guaranteed in national laws.
- Continue to enable dialogue with all stakeholders in the delivery, monitoring and follow up of the 2030 Agenda.

The 'Major Groups and Other Stakeholders' (MGOS) include 21 diverse stakeholder constituencies that are an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as enshrined in the UNGA Resolution 67/290.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023/SDG-Action-Weekend/major-groups-and-other-stakeholders>.