

**SDG ACTION WEEKEND
SEPTEMBER 2023**



Breaking Down the Barriers to Leave No One Behind

**SDG Mobilization Day
Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Session
12:00-14:00 Conference Room 4**

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

Concept Note

This session will act as a reminder that the midpoint review of the SDGs is an opportunity to renew the commitments towards the transformative aspirations of the 2030 Agenda. It will shine a light on ways to overcome global challenges and will set out practical recommendations to accelerate action and leave no one behind as we gear up towards 2030.

The session will aim to unpack the systemic barriers, identify gaps, and ensure meaningful right holders' engagement in the implementation of the SDGs. It will reflect on the priorities to achieve transformational change in the face of multiple and intersecting crises, including the Covid-19 pandemic, increased armed conflicts, accelerating climate change and the impact of debt crises, amidst increasing gender-based violence and inequality. It will then offer clear proposals for effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda which is grounded in community knowledge and practical proposals for a more sustainable, genuinely inclusive, human rights-based approach to development.

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.

We will share critical perspectives, particularly from those who have been left behind, to unlock the potential of civil society in contributing to just, equal, peaceful and sustainable societies, and contribute more meaningfully to UN processes.



Agenda

Opening: (20 mins) 12:00-12:20

- Welcome from *Rashima Kwatra, Co-Chair of MGOS Coordination Mechanism*
- Opening keynote from *Deputy Secretary General Amina Mohammed*
- Opening Statement from *Ambassador Paula Narvaez, President of ECOSOC*
- Opening Statement on Human Rights Based approach: *Ilze Brands Kehris, OHCHR, ASG for Human Rights*
- Opening Statement from co-facilitator of Political Declaration, *Ambassador Fergal Mythen, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN*

Panel 1: Building partnerships to leave no one behind (40 mins)

- Moderator: *Oli Henman, Co-Chair MGOS Coordination Mechanism*
- Spotlight on key ways to enhance sustainable development through rainforest partnerships & Indigenous approaches- *María José Andrade Cerda, Yuturi Warmi, Kichwa community, Ecuador*
- Member state views on effective partnership working: *Sarah Ryglewski, Minister of State to the Federal Chancellor, Germany*
- Proposals of 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)*
- Q&A

Panel 2: A Human Rights based approach to the 2030 Agenda (40 mins)

- Moderator: *Rashima Kwatra, Co-Chair of the MGOS Coordination Mechanism*
- Spotlight on rights-based approach to the 2030 Agenda- *Carole Agengo, Help Age International*
- Opening up civic space 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)*
- Q&A

Closing: (20 mins) Views from key stakeholder groups including:

- *Beena Pallical, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)*
- *Arnold Puech d'Alissac, World Famers' Organisation*
- *Steve Letsike, Access Chapter 2*
- Concluding remarks from *Oli Henman MGOS CM Co-Chair*



Proposed guiding questions:

1. How can we restore faith in partnerships and for the 2030 Agenda? What are the roles of civil society as partners in development in the critical period of implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
2. How can better partnerships underpin human rights, equality and equity, particularly intergenerational equity, and sustainable development in multilateral global governance? How can we address the shrinking civic space and attacks against civil society and human rights defenders at national and multilateral fora including the UN?
3. How can we transform the global economy and finance, aid, trade and climate action to genuinely leave no one behind? What steps can be taken to ensure a human rights based economy?