



SDG Action Weekend

September 2023

Catalyzing Transformative Change: Science, Academia, and the Journey to 2030

**12:00 – 2:00 PM, 16 September 2023, Trusteeship Council
Chamber, UNHQ**

**Part of the SDG Mobilization Day during the SDG Action Weekend
of the SDG Summit**

Resources

2023 Global Sustainable Development Report: “Times of crisis, times of change: Science for accelerating transformations to sustainable development”

- <https://sdgs.un.org/gsdr/gsdr2023>

Science, Technology, and Innovation for the SDGs – Progress, Future vision, and Recommendations, Report of the UN Secretary General’s 10-Member-Group of High-level Representatives of Scientific Community, Private Sector and Civil Society in support of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, May 2023,

- <https://sdgs.un.org/documents/report-10-member-group-high-level-representatives-52348>

Harnessing Scientific Evidence and Decision- Making to Accelerator the SDGs

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with progress largely stalled and even backsliding in many countries, the world must adopt a new approach and focus to move forward. This necessitates centering the role of science to identify and act on key transformation points and pathways to accelerate SDG progress. It also requires strengthening the science-policy interface to translate existing scientific evidence into actionable knowledge and insights, inform policymaking, and steer action towards desired outcomes.

With this in mind, nearly 150 experts from academia, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the scientific community, and the UN system met in an unprecedented forum held at the UN Headquarters in parallel with this year’s High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). This first-ever Science Day was established with two aims: to help ensure that the acceleration of SDG implementation over the next seven years is as evidence-based, strategic, and effective as possible; and to produce insights that will inform the upcoming SDG Summit (18-19 September) and 2024 Summit of the Future.

The SDG Summit Political Declaration (July 2023) highlights that Member States intend to increase the use of science and scientific evidence in policy making.

To guide these efforts, we present the following recommendations and a call to action – informed by your participation at the Science Day event and members of the Independent Group of Scientists of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) who participated in the event – to support Member States and decision-makers in using science to accelerate sustainable development.

- Read the Statement and Recommendations here: https://irp.cdn-website.com/6f2c9f57/files/uploaded/ScienceDayReport_SDG-Summit-2023.pdf

Transformative change and SDG 8: The critical role of collective capabilities and societal learning.

- https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_893832/lang--en/index.htm

The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)

The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) is an open partnership between several United Nations entities and the higher education community launched in the lead-up to the Rio+20 Conference in 2012. It is currently chaired by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the Sulitest Association - a non-profit organization and online platform aimed at improving sustainability literacy

for all. Other UN partners include UNESCO, UN Environment Programme, UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education initiative, UN University, UN-HABITAT, UNCTAD, UNITAR, UN Office for Partnerships, and UN Academic Impact.

Through its strong association with the United Nations, HESI aims to provide higher education with an interface between higher education, science, and policy making by raising the profile of higher education's sector in supporting sustainable development, convening multi-stakeholder discussions and action, and sharing best practices.

- More information and to join: <https://sdgs.un.org/HESI>

SDG Academy MOOCs and Programs on edX

Browse free online courses on the UN 2030 Agenda. SDG Academy courses can be audited free or students can choose to receive a verified certificate or follow programs to get a Professional Certificate for a small fee.

- Explore courses on [SDG Academy | edX](#)

SDSN Sustainable Development Report 2023

“Implementing the SDG Stimulus, Sustainable Development Report 2023” Jeffery D. Sachs, Guillaume Lafortune, Grayson Fuller and Eamon Drumm, Published by Dublin University Press, Ireland 2023

The [Sustainable Development Report \(SDR\)](#) reviews progress made each year on the Sustainable Development Goals since their adoption by the 193 UN Member States in 2015. At the halfway mark to 2030, the Sustainable Development Report 2023 takes stock of progress made and discusses priorities to restore and accelerate SDG progress. Published on the eve of the 2023 Paris Summit for a New Global Financial Pact, this year's edition focuses specifically on the need to scale up development finance and to reform the global financial architecture to support the SDGs.

- Read the [Sustainable Development Report 2023](#)
- Explore the [interactive SDR 2023 Dashboards](#)

Transformative change and SDG 8: The critical role of collective capabilities and societal learning.

- Report: [Transformative change and SDG 8 : The critical role of collective capabilities and societal learning \(ilo.org\)](#)

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Educational Resources (OER) November 2019

- [Recommendation on Open Educational Resources \(OER\) | UNESCO](#)

UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science

- <https://en.unesco.org/science-sustainable-future/open-science/recommendation>

UN DESA Policy Brief Special Issue: Financing the Sustainable Development Goals through mission-oriented development banks

- PDF document available at: https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/PB_Special-Issue_HLAB_September_2023.pdf