

2023 SDG Summit as lever for accelerated action

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SDG Summit = HLPF ... under the auspices of the General Assembly

The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Under the auspices of ...

(ECOSOC)

Economic and Social Council

**High-level Political Forum
on Sustainable Development**
(annual, 8 days)

**Thematic and
SDG Reviews**

**Voluntary
National
Reviews**

**Negotiated
Ministerial
Declaration**

(UNGA)

General Assembly

SDG Summit (quadrennial, 1–2 days,
heads of state and government)

Dialogue Formats

**Negotiated
Political
Declaration**

Secretariat: UN DESA
(Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

HLPF's mandate



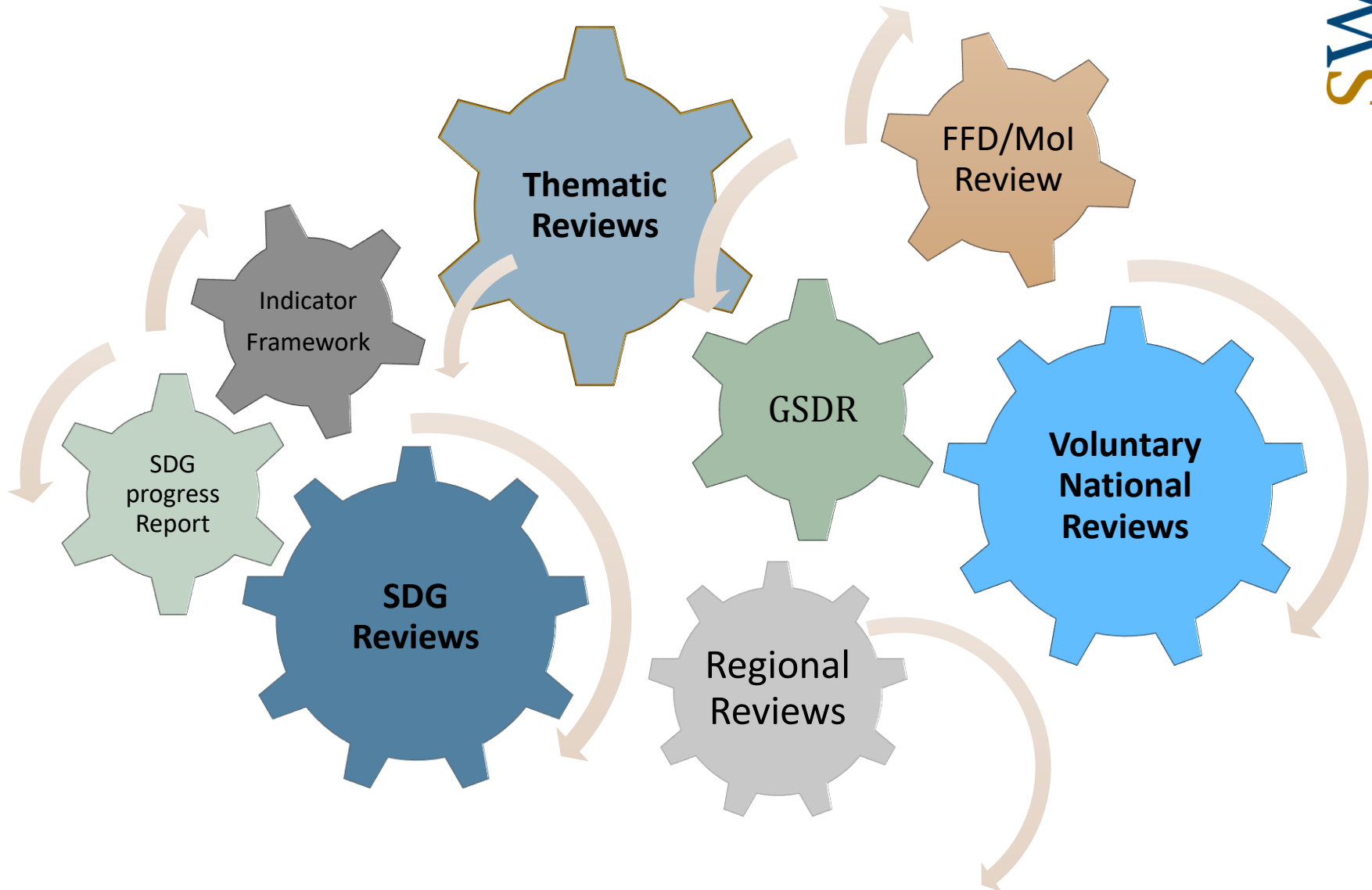
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A/Res/67/290 (2013)

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- shall provide *political leadership, guidance and recommendations* for sustainable development
- *follow up and review* progress in implementation
- enhance the *integration of the 3 dimensions of SD* in a holistic and cross-sectoral manner at all levels
- consider *new and emerging* SD challenges
- *action-oriented agenda, incl. platform for partnerships*

Follow-up and Review:



Outcome Document: Negotiated Political Declaration

A/Res/70/299 (2016) on Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level

Para 19. Decides ... that the forum shall have

**only one negotiated political declaration,
covering the different and complementary functions of both
sessions of the forum**

when the forum is convened twice in the same year;



Political Declaration 2019 (A/Res/74/4)

Decade of Action and Delivery: call to accelerated action!

We commit to...

- a. leaving no one behind
- b. mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing
- c. enhancing national implementation
- d. strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions
- e. bolstering local action to accelerate implementation
- f. reducing disaster risk and building resilience
- g. solving challenges through international cooperation and enhancing the global partnership
- h. harnessing science, technology and innovation with a greater focus on digital transformation for sustainable development
- i. investing in data and statistics for the SDGs



Political Declaration 2019 (A/Res/74/4)

j. Strengthening the high-level political forum:

we pledge to carry out an ambitious and effective review of the format and organizational aspects of the HLPF and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level ... with a view to better addressing gaps in implementation and linking identified challenges with appropriate responses, including on financing, to further strengthen the effective and participatory character of this intergovernmental forum and encourage the peer-learning character of the voluntary national reviews...



UN 2014/15



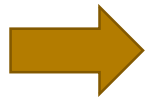
UN 2020/21

2019-2021 Research Project: following and analyzing the negotiations on HLPF review

- various informal meetings (retreats, EGMs)
- 2020 and 2021 negotiations
- 2021: seven formal “informals” with seven drafts of the resolution(s)
- two final texts (A/RES/75/290 A+B)

Lessons Learned: Typical conflicts

- reservations over **sovereignty** (no “hardening” of follow-up and review)
- diverging **priorities**: development vs. environment (“green”)
- differences over **participation** by non-state actors (non-objection basis)
- **human rights** and **values** (gender and family issues)
- **geopolitical** conflicts (occupied territories et al.)
- **resources**: budgetary implications (pbi) and financing (MoI, CBDR)



Will continue to block effective global SD governance,
also problem for **2023 SDG Summit**

Lessons Learned: Improved follow-up of HLPF's deliberations & declarations

A/RES/75/290 A+B:

- Participants of the 2022/23 HLPF are asked to ***review and follow up the implementation of the Political Declaration of 2019***
- UN Secretary-General's report to ECOSOC is to include the **main lessons learned** from the thematic reviews and VNRs, with **recommendations for follow-up** by countries, various segments and forums of the Council, the UN system and relevant stakeholders. UN Secretariat is requested to prepare an informal note with corresponding recommendations.
- **ECOSOC Coordination Segment** shall feed the *previous* year's deliberations and the ECOSOC/HLPF declaration into its **programme of work**

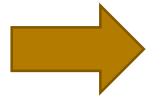
Lessons Learned (Thematic/SDG Reviews): Integrated action in focus!

- The **GSDR 2019** suggested to focus on **integrated and coherent policy interventions** that actually deliver on multiple goals and targets, for **accelerated** action
- call for **synergistic** solutions, **systemic** approaches, **integrated** policy interventions, **multiple-win** solutions, or **rapid transition** alliances
- overcoming **structural barriers** = **transformative** pathways towards sustainable development
- “**multiple crisis**”: pandemic, climate change, biodiversity, debt, inflation ... armed conflict, humanitarian & geopolitical crises >> complex challenges
= “new normal” >> need to craft appropriate responses

Lessons Learned (VNRs): Peer learning

A/RES/75/290 B:

- strengthen the **evidence, science, evaluation and data basis**
- assess the **impact of measures** taken since the last review
- invites forward-looking **accelerated action** and
- greater attention to **interlinkages** across the goals and targets
- **SDG Moment** “to highlight **inspiring action** on the Goals”



Lessons learned for 2023 SDG Summit



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- While there are **numerous conflicts** ...
- ... the HLPF is **widely appreciated for peer learning** and as a venue where representatives of the member states, the UN system and stakeholders can discuss **good practices** for the effective implementation of the SDGs.
- The **2023 SDG Summit** should deliver on that...
- ... and also work with the **science-based advice** given in the 2019 and 2023 Global Sustainable Development Reports (**GSDR**)

2023 SDG Summit: Peer learning on transformative action

DESA could be given the mandate and the resources to **evaluate** the many reports including 345+ VNR reports, for identifying integrated and transformative policies and measures for achieving the SDGs.

DESA issued two open calls for  **SDG GOOD PRACTICES**

put results in online platform and digital publications

>> <https://sdgs.un.org/sdg-good-practices>

... great projects, but results are not yet fully convincing,
i. e. ground-breaking and transformative, inspiring format

>> necessary for generating political will

>> **we need to invest in this!**

2023 SDG Summit: Peer learning on transformative action

PGA could invite contributions by countries/coalitions that present **convincing and inspiring policy packages and measures** for making significant progress in sustainable development transformation!

For example,

- by phasing out harmful and phasing in helpful practices (> **GSDR 2023**), in a socially responsible way (for example, how to navigate “just transition”)
- for recovering better from COVID-19
- for rebuilding Pakistan or Ukraine – sustainable infrastructure development

2023 SDG Summit: Peer learning on transformative action

>> also fits well PGA's agenda:

**Integrated solutions
to systemic challenges through
“Solidarity, Sustainability, Science”**



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Thank you!

For SWP publications on sustainable development governance:

<https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/dossiers/sustainability-climate-and-energy/>

For project work on the HLPF Review:

<https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/projects/high-level-political-forum-on-sustainable-development-hlpf/>