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# 2023 Sustainable Development Transformation FORUM

## Substantive Report

Incheon City, Republic of Korea  
16 - 19 October 2023



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## Contents

<b>2023 INCHEON COMMUNIQUÉ</b> .....	4
<b>Introduction</b> .....	5
Background .....	5
Objectives and Format .....	5
Participants .....	6
<b>Forum Opening</b> .....	6
Opening Remarks .....	6
Keynote Address .....	7
<b>Regional Launch of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report</b> .....	8
Overview Session of the GSDR.....	8
Panel Discussion - 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report .....	12
Operationalizing the GSDR: Training Session on Entry Points and Levers of Transformation.....	15
<b>Session I: Poverty and climate - Building resilience of the poor and vulnerable to climate risks through climate action (SDGs 1, 13 &amp; 17)</b> .....	19
United Nations Early Warning for All Initiative .....	19
Circularity, Competitiveness, and Inclusiveness for Resilient Green Transformation .....	20
Country Case Presentation: Madagascar .....	20
Country Case Presentation: Republic of the Philippines, San Carlos City .....	21
Q&A Session.....	21
Additional Resources .....	22
<b>Session II: Multifunctional Agriculture and Agroecology (SDGs 2 &amp; 17)</b> .....	24
Agroecology for Food Security .....	24
Country Case Presentation: The Loss of an Ancestral Practice - The current situation of agroecology in Honduras .....	25
Country Case Presentation: Côte D’Ivoire.....	26
Group and Plenary Discussion .....	27
Additional Resources .....	28
<b>Session III: Climate Finance, Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction and Inclusive Growth (SDGs 13 &amp; 17)</b> .....	29
Green Climate Fund Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender and Indigenous Peoples, and the Role of These in Financing a Just Transition .....	30
Programme for ‘Eco-Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Business’ via Partnerships for Climate Action & Inclusive Growth .....	31
Country Case Presentation: Mongolia - Sustainable Development Goals: Policy and Financing Framework .....	31
Country Case Example: Paraguay - Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change .....	32
Q&A Session.....	33
Additional Resources .....	36



**United Nations**

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



<b>Session IV: Open and Inclusive Data for the SDGs (SDGs 16 &amp; 17)</b> .....	36
SDG Synergies: a tool to support decision making in implementing the 2030 Agenda.....	36
Country Case Presentation: Peru - Role of data to strengthen foresight and strategic planning .....	38
Country Case Presentation: Kuwait – Open and Inclusive Data.....	39
Q&A and Discussion Session .....	40
Additional Resources .....	41
<b>Session V: From 2023 SDG Summit to 2024 Summit of the Future</b> .....	41
Our Common Agenda and the Summit of the Future: Supporting acceleration of the SDGs .....	41
Country Perspective: Cameroon .....	43
Country Perspective: Lao PDR.....	44
Youth Perspectives .....	44
Plenary Discussion .....	45
Additional Resources .....	45
<b>Session VI: Nature-based Solutions for Accelerating the SDGs</b> .....	46
Report Launch- Advancing Urban Sustainability in Cities through Nature-Based Solutions:	
Lessons from Asia.....	46
Agroecology and Nature-based Solutions.....	47
Q&A and Discussion Session .....	48
Training Exercise on Nature-based Solutions.....	48
Additional Resources .....	49
<b>Forum Closing Session and Conclusions</b> .....	50
Working Session on Development of the Incheon Communiqué.....	50
Closing Reflections and Remarks .....	52
<b>Annex A: Forum Participant List</b> .....	53
<b>Annex B: Participant Insights During Training Exercise on Entry Points and Levers for SDG Transformations</b> .....	60



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## 2023 INCHEON COMMUNIQUÉ

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TRANSFORMATION FORUM, 16-19 OCTOBER 2023, INCHEON, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

1. The ninth annual Sustainable Development Transformation Forum (SDTF), convened by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, welcomed 80 representatives from member states of the United Nations system and institutions on sustainable development.
2. The SDTF delivered a prospective view of the 2024 High-level Political Forum's overarching theme of *Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions*. Among the key insights emerging from the 2023 SDTF were the following:
3. The results of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) laid bare the urgency for transformative actions to accelerate progress toward the SDGs, against the backdrop of unprecedented global crises and uncertainty. Giving attention to the science-policy-society interface, the report's Independent Group of Scientists recommended six key entry points for transformation, including: (1) human wellbeing and capabilities; (2) sustainable and just economies; (3) sustainable food systems and healthy nutrition; (4) energy decarbonization and universal access; (5) urban and peri-urban development; and (6) the global environmental commons. Furthermore, the GSDR encouraged governments to use five levers to affect transformation in the entry points, namely: (i) *governance*; (ii) *economy and finance*; (iii) *science and technology*; (iv) *individual and collective action*; and (v) *capacity building*.
4. To accelerate progress on SDGs 1, 13, and 17, deliberations at the SDTF called for a focus on those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and multiple crises, so as to overcome poverty and become more resilient by: leveraging science, data, and information exchange; strengthening capacities of individuals and institutions for a whole-of-society approach; integrating climate, poverty, and resilience in policy and action; and enabling cross-sectoral action at the necessary scale to reduce vulnerability, inequality, and poverty.
5. The SDTF also emphasized a transition from conventional and industrial farming towards agroecologically based food systems as a means to accelerate progress on SDGs 2 and 17. This requires financing and capacity building for smallholder farmers to enhance their ability to transition towards agroecology approaches. Furthermore, SDTF discussions stressed that inclusive governance was necessary to ensure full participation of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth and that repurposing agricultural subsidies toward locally produced bio-inputs would accelerate the green transition, cultivate diversity and strengthen smallholder livelihoods.
6. In the context of accelerating progress on SDGs 13 and 17, and specifically relating to transformative actions on climate finance, reducing GHG emissions, and achieving inclusive growth, the SDTF emphasized the need to foster collaboration between the public and the private sector to address both mitigation and adaptation needs, especially for developing countries.
7. The role of nature-based solutions was also emphasized during the forum, as a cost-effective means for urban and peri-urban areas to enhance resilience to climate risks and reduce carbon emissions, while also realizing multiple benefits for community wellbeing.
8. SDTF deliberations also stressed the need for ongoing efforts to bridge data gaps and improve the availability and quality of data for all SDGs, necessitating international collaboration, capacity building, improved data collection and reporting systems, and data standardization efforts. Furthermore, strategic planning with a foresight approach was seen as a powerful tool to translate data into effective action towards the SDGs.
9. Finally, with a view to the *2024 Summit of the Future*, the SDTF discussed the Secretary General's eleven *Our Common Agenda Policy Briefs* and emphasized the importance of information integrity on digital platforms and meaningful youth engagement. Furthermore, it was emphasized that the *Pact for the Future* must come with political support and an effective international financial architecture to build resilience against persisting and emerging crises to leave no one behind.
10. The 2023 SDTF concluded on the importance of multi-lateralism for accelerated progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – our global blueprint for progress.

United Nations Office for Sustainable Development,  
Incheon, Republic of Korea, 19 October 2023



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## Introduction

### Background

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, the world's progress on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is alarmingly off track. As highlighted in the recently released special edition of [Sustainable Development Goals Report](#), only 15% of SDG targets are on track, while 48% are moderately or severely off track, and 37% have stalled or even regressed. The impacts of climate change, the ongoing political conflicts, a fragile global economy, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have revealed weaknesses and hindered progress towards the SDGs. However, we still have hope to rescue these ambitions by 2030, provided we swiftly accelerate our efforts.

The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), operating under the umbrella of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), plays a pivotal role in fostering creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge to advance implementation of SDGs especially for developing countries.

A standout initiative of UNOSD aimed at realizing this objective is the annual Sustainable Development Transformation Forum (SDTF). Typically held in Incheon City in October, this event brings together approximately one hundred participants involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda from various sectors and offer a platform for capacity building, knowledge exchange, policy innovation and partnership.

### Objectives and Format

As in most of previous editions of the SDTF, the 2023 Forum followed the thread of the next High-level Political Forum that will be held in 2024 under the overarching theme, *'Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions'*. The SDTF featured the SDGs that will go under in-depth review during the [HLPF in July 2024](#), namely SDGs 1 on no poverty, 2 on zero hunger, 13 on climate action, 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals.

In addition, with the new edition of the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) issued in 2023, this year's SDTF opened with a launch event of GSDR 2023 for Asia and Pacific region. GSDR 2023 brings together the latest scholarship on sustainable development from a wide range of sources and disciplines. It includes an analysis on the current states of progress on each of the 17 SDGs, offers a conceptual framework and tools to understand impediments and opportunities for realizing the 2030 Agenda, and presents a "Call to Action" that can be adapted to different regional, national, and sub-national contexts. The Levers of transformation outlined in the GSDR—governance, economy and finance, science and technology, individual and collective action, and capacity building— provided guidance for the discussions at the SDTF.

This year's SDTF supported participants in achieving a deeper understanding of the findings and recommendations outlined in the 2023 GSDR, focusing on their application for the implementation of



SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17. The Forum also facilitated peer learning by fostering discussions on challenges and solutions, sharing success stories and lessons learned. Moreover, it contributed to identifying strategies to expedite necessary actions for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Participants

Attending the 2023 Forum were approximately 80 participants from national and sub-national governments, policy think tanks, academic institutions, and the United Nations system. The list of participants is provided in [Annex A](#).



## Forum Opening

### Opening Remarks

**Mr. Chun Kyoo Park**, Head of Office for the UNOSD in Incheon City, opened the Forum by noting the importance of working together and discussing the SDGs of focus at the 2024 High-level Political Forum. With his 30-years of knowledge and experience at the Republic of Korea's Ministry of the Environment, including as Vice Minister, Mr. Park emphasized the importance of interlinkages among the SDGs and the importance of deepening our understanding of systems thinking through this year's Forum.

**Mr. Chang Heum Lee**, Deputy Minister of the Republic of Korea's Ministry of Environment, began his opening remarks by acknowledging that the current reality for achieving the SDGs by 2030 is not positive, owing to the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and other global crises. As part of the Korean government's support to the UNOSD for helping developing countries make progress on



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achieving SDGs through concrete solutions, Mr. Lee recognized the importance of the innovative actions that were discussed at the recent United Nations SDG Summit in New York. The Deputy Minister welcomed the regional launch of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report which provides evidence-based science solutions and frameworks for addressing multiple crises and accelerating transformations.

**H.E. Ambassador Toru Morikawa**, Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Foundation and long-standing supporter of the SDTF, emphasized the need to reunite as a global community and remobilize ourselves to achieve the SDGs. The Ambassador described how multiple unexpected factors have slowed and even reversed progress, including the pandemic, inflation, and geopolitical conflict. At the same time, he is hopeful to see positive development in Asia, with the ASEAN region's growing economic power and expanding middle class. Ambassador Morikawa concluded with a note that the Asia-Europe Foundation will continue to play its role through multiple partnerships to help ensure there is justice and balance to the entire world, a world where we can have "The Future We Want".

### Keynote Address

As a member of the UN Secretary-General's Independent Group of Scientists for the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), Dr. Eun Mee Kim, President of Ewha Women's University in the Republic of Korea, delivered the Forum's Keynote Address. Dr. Kim described how the 1987 report, "Our Common Future"<sup>1</sup>, prepared by the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), served as the inspiration for the GSDR with its focus on an integrated approach and tough choices to make for achieving development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The 2019 GSDR brought together a truly interdisciplinary group of scientists and one of the key contributions was creating the Entry Points and Levers for accelerating transformation as a systems approach to think about the SDGs and make the goals implementable. This was motivated by the understanding that the SDGs are universal, indivisible and integrated: we can't assess and implement in silos and must look for synergies and trade-offs. Among the surprising findings of the 2019 report was the research & development gap between the global north and south, with most financing coming from the private sector and limited public sector funding.

In reflecting on the 2023 GSDR, Dr. Kim noted how it considers the global challenges to SDGs, including: the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Digital Transformation) with widening inequality of who benefits from the internet; the COVID-19 Pandemic and how it has interrupted the progress of SDGs (especially SDG 1 and SDG 5); war; and climate change. She elaborated how the 2023 GSDR advanced the thinking around the Entry Points and Levers approach and provided a practical tool in the S-Curve of Transformation which describes two simultaneous processes: the rise of sustainable systems through stages of

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<sup>1</sup> [Paperback book version](#), [Free online version](#)



emergence, acceleration, and stabilization; and the decline of dominant unsustainable systems through stages of destabilization, breakdown, and phase out. As well, Dr. Kim outlined the 2023 GSDR’s findings related to financing, with the need for innovation, knowledge-sharing, empirical research, science-based solutions, bonds, and partnerships. She highlighted that urgent action is required through multilateral cooperation, public-private coordination, scientific research and technological advancement, and capacity building.

Dr. Kim closed with a statement that SDGs are still relevant, and we should work together, now, and at this Forum, since we do not have enough time until 2030.

## I. Introduction: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)

<b>UN Sustainable Development Goals (2016-2030): 2030 Agenda</b>	<b>Global Sustainable Development Report (every 4 years, 2019-)</b>
 <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development</p>	<div style="background-color: #2980b9; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Independent Group of Scientists appointed by UN Secretary General</div> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f1c40f;"/> <div style="background-color: #2980b9; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Assessment of SDGs based on Scientific Evidence and Science-Policy Interface</div> <hr style="border: 1px solid #f1c40f;"/> <div style="background-color: #2980b9; color: white; padding: 5px;">Policy Recommendations to UN SG &amp; Member States</div>

Dr. Kim’s presentation slides are available [here](#).

## Regional Launch of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report

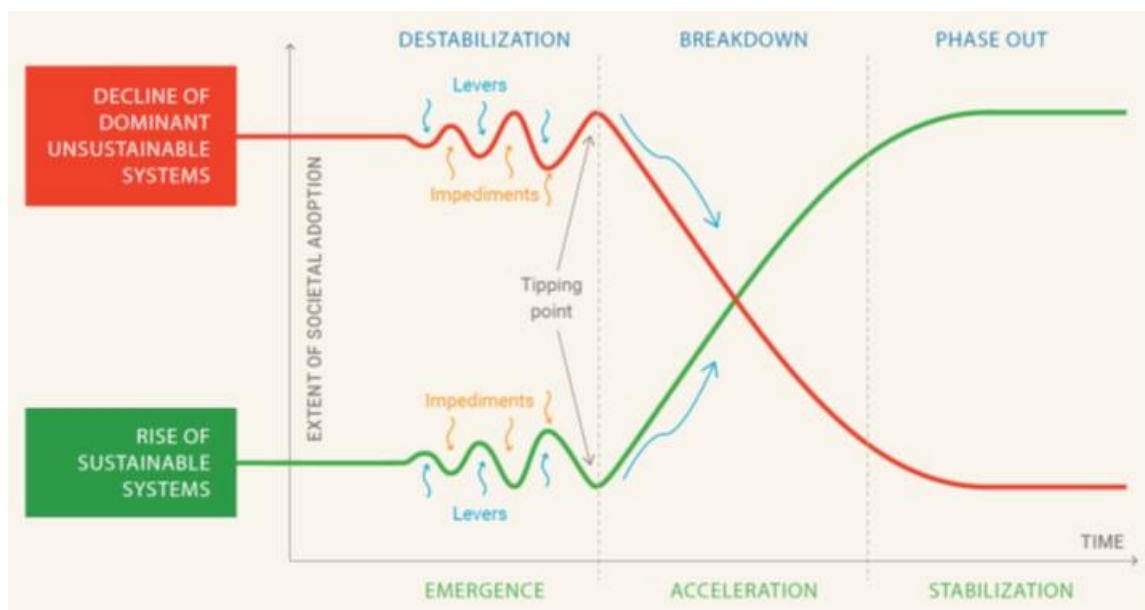
### Overview Session of the GSDR

**Dr. Astra Bonini**, Chief of the Integrated Policy Analysis Branch of UNDESA’s Division for Sustainable Development Goals, coordinated the preparation of the [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report](#) and opened the regional launch event by emphasizing that this is an important time to share ideas since it is the midpoint of the 2030 agenda. Dr. Bonini recounted the recent 2023 SDG Summit in New York where leaders drew on the results of the GSDR and declared to accelerate progress towards SDG commitment, such as financing SDGs and data systems. Leaders also recognized that science, technology, and innovation are crucial areas for future action.





The theme of the 2023 GSDR is “*Times of Crisis, Times of Change: Science for Accelerating Transformation to Sustainable Development*”. It is an assessment of assessments, bringing evidence from a wide range of publications and reports in a multi-disciplinary approach to report on progress and key trends for the SDGs. A key message of the report is that transformations are indeed possible. The UN Secretary-General appointed an Independent Group of Scientists to research and prepare the report through a series of regional consultations and review of peer-reviewed reports. Among the report’s many practical insights is the S-curve nature of transformations, whereby a successful transformation typically occurs along three stages: emergence, acceleration, and stabilization. Importantly, there is often a related and reverse S-curve that characterizes the decline of the once dominant, yet unsustainable system (see figure below). In both situations, levers of change act to move the system forward along their respective S-curves, encountering a multitude of impediments along the way.



Dr. Bonini described that crises are often inter-linked, and scientists pointed out that understanding how and why crises happen leads to increased capacity in knowledge and technology that can help address impediments to progress.

She closed with gratitude for the support from UN DESA to connect key actors across the world and acknowledged support from UNCTAD, UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, and the World Bank to support the Independent Group of Scientists in preparing the 2023 GSDR. Dr. Bonini said that the UN will continue to disseminate the report’s results as well as translate the recommendations into calls for action on the ground. She commented how the GSDR training and operationalization workshop that is convened at this year’s SDTF is an important initial follow-up from the report to sensitize different stakeholders and decision makers to the key insights from the GSDR.



**Dr. Ganbold Baasanjav**, Head of the East and North-East Asia Office for United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), elaborated on progress toward the SDGs in the region as highlighted in the [“Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report: Championing Sustainability Despite Adversities”](#). Critically, he noted that progress as of 2022 showed that 14.4% of SDG targets had been achieved in the region, and at this rate, it would take another 42 years to achieve all the targets.

Notably, Dr. Baasanjav informed Forum participants that the Asia and Pacific region experienced reverse progress on SDG 13 targets relating to Climate Action. At the same time, some regional leaders have outperformed the current pace of progress, giving hope that progress can be accelerated toward a net-zero carbon future in the region via transformation in the energy sector (e.g., batteries), transport sector (e.g., loc-carbon mobility and logistics), and international trade and investment.

Dr. Baasanjav’s slides are available [here](#).



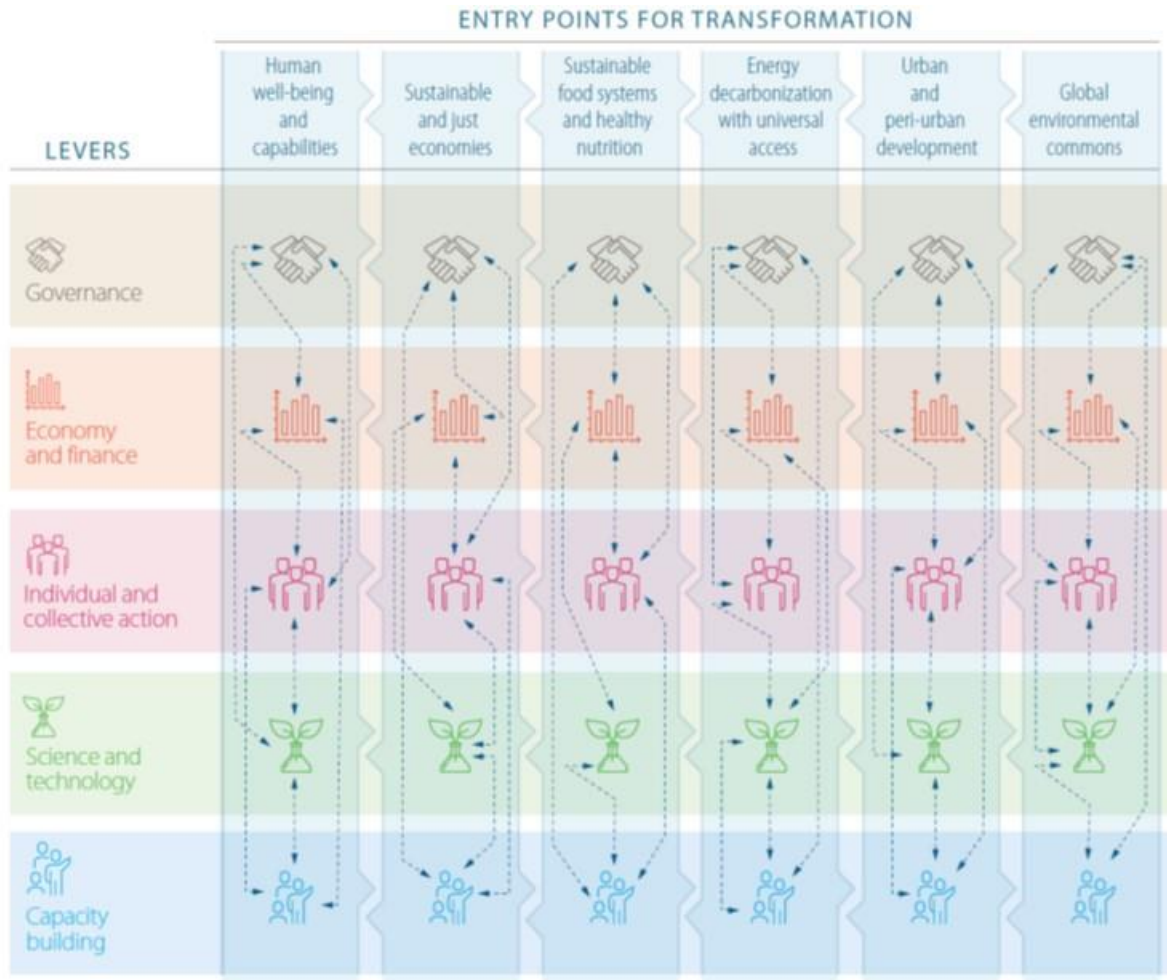
**Dr. Ambuj Sagar**, Deputy Director and Vipula and Mahesh Chaturvedi Professor of Policy Studies at the School of Public Policy, Indian Institute of Technology, was a member of the Independent Group of Scientists for the 2023 GSDR. Dr. Sagar reiterated the three key words of the assessment as “science”, “acceleration”, and “transformation” and highlighted its key messages as relating to synergies and trade-offs among the SDGs. He re-iterated Dr. Bonini’s message that transformations typically follow an S-curve with stages of emergence, acceleration, and stabilization (electric vehicles and vaccines being notable examples). Importantly, he emphasized that transformation can be managed in a systematic, strategic and contextual way, and is different from country to country. Therefore, managing the pursuit of various entry points and levers is critically important, by harnessing knowledge and capacity.

As depicted in the figure that follows, among the six main Entry Points for managing SDG transformation as suggested by the Independent Group of Scientists in the 2023 GSDR were: (a) human wellbeing and capabilities; (b) sustainable and just economies; (c) sustainable food systems and healthy nutrition; (d) energy decarbonization with universal access; (e) urban and peri-urban development; and (f) the global environmental commons. The Levers to be applied by decisionmakers and policymakers to accelerate



progress within and across these Entry Points include: governance; economy and finance; individual and collective action; science and technology; and capacity building.

Dr. Sagar's slides are available [here](#).



Among the questions posed to the session's three experts were the following:

**Question:** In the Asia Pacific Report, we see that there is a reversal of progress in SDG 13 on Climate Action. Which factors are affecting this negative progress?

- Dr. Ganbold Baasanjav described that we can see how heat waves, floods and other climate-change driven hazards have impacted various countries. Countries in Asia and the Pacific have adapted in different ways, requiring coordination among government (through policies and strategies), the private sector (effective priorities, including in financial institutions), and civil society and local authorities so that we can identify the root causes, which are different from



region to region (with different vulnerabilities and disasters). Knowing this, we can address both mitigation and adaptation, particularly in the energy, transport and trade sectors.

**Question:** From the previous answer, we can see that every country and region have different challenges, and this leads to acceleration and deceleration of the SDGs across regions. How do we balance this, so that progress is together at a global level?

- Dr. Ambuj Sagar described how we can have synergies across the regions in achieving SDGs. He gave an example of renewable energy. As several countries use renewable energy, the price goes down. Then, the price goes down again when other emerging countries start to use renewable energy and other countries follow to use renewable energy for electric power. On the other side, the countries who are dependent on fossil fuels have resisted because it is against the economy and push back the deployment of renewable energy. It depends on the region. Another area is finance. Some regions cannot move forward even though there are financing opportunities. Lastly, it is important to highlight that if regions gain a sound understanding of the interlinkages among the SDGs, this can help achieve maximum benefits. One example is Ethiopia who have implemented renewable energy at scale.
- Ms. Sara Castro Hallgren, Sustainable Development Officer with the UN Office for Sustainable Development, elaborated further with an example of the [African Green Hydrogen Alliance](#).

### Panel Discussion- 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report

**Dr. Kim** moderated an esteemed panel consisting of the UNOSD Head of Office, Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, together with Dr. Ambuj Sagar and Dr. Astra Bonini. The purpose of the panel session was to further explore key aspects of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR).

Dr. Kim began by highlighting the 1987 Brundtland Commission report, “Our Common Future”, which was a key moment that established the concept and state of sustainable development. But 30 years later, when the first GSDR was issued, there was little tangible progress, and “that was sad”. She asked the panelists to **provide examples of accelerating progress toward the SDGs, including the Levers described in the GSDR, recognizing that these are context specific.**

**Dr. Sagar** started the discussion noting that the GSDR studied past transformations. In the context of the green evolution, there was an agricultural transformation that began in the 1960s in Asia and spread to other regions and countries. It was very successful in enhancing food production. Starting with Asian countries given the variety of crops and possibilities of deployment, it helped food systems, especially rice and wheat. He further described that when talking about transformation, we need to talk about levers, such as finance and science and technology.

Another example is the COVID-19 vaccine. An accelerated vaccine was possible because of existing investment in health and biological research across the world, and this science was rapidly converted into a vaccine. With the emergence of the scientific knowledge base, investment in the development of



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vaccines lead to successful vaccines being made available. The financing lever was then used to accelerate the mass manufacture of the successful vaccines and distribution around the world.

Looking forward, Dr. Sagar gave examples of upcoming transformations, such as in renewable energy and electrical vehicles which are in different phases in different parts of the world. We are seeing so far that the countries doing well are leveraging finance and building capacity.

Dr. Kim took the opportunity to ask Dr. Sagar about the role of tertiary education in closing the research and development gap between the north and the south mentioned earlier. Dr. Sagar articulated that education is the heart of capacity building since it helps a country to scale transformations. We can see that the investment of education in terms of humanities and science and technology is important for individual capacity building, but it is necessary to add institutional capacity as part of the transformation process.

Dr. Kim then addressed Dr. Bonini on the topic of competing crises, in which we see on the world stage today, the UN attempting to help countries work together. In Dr. Kim's observation, countries have not worked together and the targets of the 2030 Agenda have not been achieved. **Against this backdrop, Dr. Kim asked what are the essential messages from the GSDR for leaders and policymakers?**

**Dr. Bonini** responded by noting that the example of vaccines gives us the message that there are interlinkages and that transformations will happen; however, we need to steer the direction of transformation with the help of levers. Another important message from the GSDR emphasized by Dr. Bonini was the risk of not taking action. The rising conflict in Ukraine and food insecurity in Africa shows the importance of interlinkages of SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institution) and other SDGs such as education and poverty.

As coordinator of the GSDR report, Dr. Bonini was asked what she believed were some of the essential messages for leaders and policymakers. In reply, Dr. Bonini commented that transformations are inevitable and the need to steer them is important. As well, the occurrence of multiple crisis amplifies the impact of inaction (i.e., the war in Ukraine and impacts to food security, and conflicts in the Sahal). Progress toward SDG 16 on Peace and Security is key for progress in the other SDGs. There are indeed interlinkages, and that is the message.

To conclude the panel, **Mr. Park** was asked what the UNOSD is doing to help with these transformations? Mr. Park replied that this Forum is one example, bringing together government officials and experts to learn more about transformation and share experiences. The UNOSD also hosts several other annual capacity building events, including a GHG training workshop, an Executive Training Course, an SDG Youth Summer camp, and a Mayors Forum. As part of these events, the policy development simulation in the Executive Training Course allows participants to think about synergies and trade-offs. Our SDG Youth



summer camp empowers youth leaders to think critically about issues and solutions, with over 250 youth trained.



Dr. Kim then opened the floor to questions from the Forum participants, the first of which touched on the contrast of the classic development pathway versus the sustainable path and asked panellists **how can the sustainable path work in a developing country context?**

**Dr. Sagar** addressed this question as a choice, emphasizing that we know the classic pathway is unsustainable. According to the Brundtland Commission Report, 'Our Common Future', if we do it right, it is not an either/or question. Not paying attention to safeguarding the environment makes it difficult, if not impossible, to sustain a classic pathway. As we move down the sustainable pathway, there is pushback. Empowerment of people and politicians is therefore important, and science and knowledge are keys to this empowerment.

Another question from the floor asked **what are some effective approaches to help us move on the sustainable pathway in the context of limited resources?** **Mr. Park** responded to this question by describing how, as a former policy maker in the Korean government, the question is the same for every official government official: how to turn the plan into action. It is important to understand that every position has an interest, especially in economics and the environment. One of the ways to make sustainable development happen is to base decisions on science and evidence.

In a similar fashion, a point was raised from the floor about rising global debt, and with this reality, **how can we be optimistic about the future?** **Dr. Bonini** acknowledged that reducing debt and accelerating



finance were among the biggest topics during the recent SDG Summit convened in the UN General Assembly. The GSDR is a global report that does not give the specific solution for each country, but it helps to spread the understanding of the interlinkages and the concept of how coordinated action across SDGs can help accelerate action, including by stimulating investment in science and technology and having partnerships on education that focuses on science and research. To follow up what **Dr. Sagar** has said, trust in science and information and science/evidence-based policymaking are needed around the world. UN DESA uses various approaches to help facilitate this, such as the [Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum](#).

In concluding the panel session, Dr. Kim asked each of the panellists **if you could sum up this year's GSDR in one word, what would it be?** In response, panel members replied: capacity, acceleration, urgency, and science!

### [Operationalizing the GSDR: Training Session on Entry Points and Levers of Transformation](#)

**Dr. Bonini** introduced this working session as a means for participants to better understand the six Entry Points and five Levers introduced in the 2023 GSDR. **The six Entry Points provide an organizing framework of transformations needed to achieve the SDGs** and represent closely related systems with opportunities to take advantage of synergies among many targets and resolve or ameliorate trade-offs with others. The Entry Points include (GSDR, page 44):

- 1. Human well-being and capabilities** – Material well-being and livelihoods, health, security, education, voice and empowerment, and access to a clean and safe environment are all part of human well-being. When people's basic needs are met, they develop the capabilities to drive global social, economic and environmental progress and transformations.
- 2. Sustainable and just economies** – Economic development and activity are valuable because they can contribute to human well-being, not as ends in themselves. The current economic status quo is defined by severe inequality and environmental destruction, and to move toward an economic system that is sustainable and just, major changes in the way people live, work, produce and consume will be needed.
- 3. Sustainable food systems and healthy nutrition** – The current food system is a complex combination of local, national, regional and global unsustainable agricultural, processing, trade and transport, and retail systems, with obvious links to health and equity issues around the world. Moving to sustainable food systems will require deep shifts in production, distribution, retailing, consumption, diets, dealing with food waste and losses including re-use.
- 4. Energy decarbonization with universal access** – The 2030 Agenda commits to both universal access to energy and decarbonization of energy sources across the globe. Addressing the climate crisis will mean moving away from fossil fuels and ending the use of polluting solid fuels for cooking.
- 5. Urban and peri-urban development** – Half of the world's population now lives in cities, and urbanization is projected to grow. Equity, health, social well-being and cohesion, and environmental sustainability have to be prioritized in urban and peri-urban areas. It will also be important to revitalize rural areas.
- 6. Global environmental commons** – Achieving the entire 2030 Agenda will depend on protecting shared resources – atmosphere, hydrosphere, global oceans, cryosphere, polar regions, forests, land, freshwater and biodiversity.



Dr. Sagar elaborated by emphasizing that business-as-usual strategies will not deliver the SDGs by 2030 or even 2050, but working through the six Entry Points can help unleash rapid progress. Specifically, the GSDR recommends that locally relevant and integrated implementation processes will be needed that break down the silos of public service and policymaking. And importantly, **the five Levers of Transformation need to work together in a cohesive manner to overcome impediments**. The five Levers for accelerating SDG transformation include (GSDR, page 46):

- A. **Governance** – Governance provides the institutions and the spaces for establishing an overall direction of development, setting targets, coordinating actions, providing regulations, creating specialized organizations and enabling the flow of finance at national and subnational levels. Good governance enhances synergies and identifies trade-offs and connections while building engagement between politicians, civil society, businesses, youth, labour, media, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.
- B. **Economy and Finance** – Transformations will require significant public and private investment. In low-income countries, annual outlays related to education, health and infrastructure would have to increase by 15 percentage points of GDP. Achieving these levels would require an increased global tax base and, new forms of international support, including debt relief and financial intermediation.
- C. **Science and technology** – Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals requires social and technological innovation and feasible, cost-effective and scalable technologies. This will mean investing in R&D and shifting subsidies and incentives towards new sustainable technologies and practices. When technologies reach a tipping point in cost and market conditions, investors can then scale finance throughout the transition.
- D. **Individual and collective action** – Large-scale societal change is often achieved first in people’s hearts and minds, through social organization and mobilization at the grassroots level, and only afterwards enshrined in legislation and economic policies. Behaviour change can be supported by education, information strategies and campaigns, financial incentives, regulatory processes and legislation.
- E. **Capacity-building** – The capacity needed to support the transformation process to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals is highly variegated: different Goals require different transformations, which themselves might require different kinds of capacity; different stages of transformation require different kinds of capacity; and capacity needs vary greatly among countries.

To conclude, **Dr. Sagar** referred again to the S-curve of SDG transformation, noting that strategic combinations of Entry Points and Levers for the SDGs can minimize impediments and support promising solutions specific to different phases of transformation- Emergence, Acceleration, Stabilization.

Dr. Sagar’s slides are available [here](#).

To help enhance the understanding of the Entry Points and Levers, UNOSD consultant and SDTF facilitator, **Mr. Darren Swanson**, led participants through a breakout group and plenary exercise using a card game format as illustrated below.





## Entry Point and Lever Card Game

### 1. Deal and select your cards

- Each table has two envelopes of cards, one with six Entry Points and the other with five Levers.
- Facilitator to place these cards on table face down in their respective piles (they are already shuffled).
- One by one, each participant take one card from top of each pile. Remember your cards and place back at the bottom of the pile.

### 2. Strategize your card hand

- Study your Entry Point and Lever by referring to the 2023 GSDR (p. 44-47)
- Reflect on the following questions:

1. How would I explain the meaning of my Entry Point and Lever to others?
2. In what way could the Lever be applied to accelerate progress toward the Entry Point, in the context of my country?

### 3. Play your cards

- At your table, share responses to the questions.
- Facilitator to post answers to questions 2 and 3 to the forum's virtual flipchart (generic post, no reference to country or participant).
- A QR code is provided on each table to access the Padlet.
- Posts should be short and concise (tweet-like).
- Everyone be ready to share in plenary

Insights from participants regarding how the various Levers could be applied to accelerate progress across the Entry Points were shared on a virtual flipchart (using the Padlet App) and discussed in plenary. These insights are summarized in [Annex B](#) and show both breadth and depth of country examples and aspirations for SDG transformation and acceleration. The summary results in Annex B illustrate that all five Levers outlined in the 2023 GSDR are relevant in the context of the different Entry Points for SDG transformation.

To provide a more hands-on, learn-by-doing approach, the UNOSD also designed a multi-day exercise whereby each participant developed a **Call-to-Action SDG Transformation Plan** using the Entry Points and Levers systems approach outlined in the 2023 GSDR. During each of day of the Forum, participants worked individually and in groups using the worksheet depicted below to develop and record ideas for how to apply each of the Levers to the Entry Points of Transformation and thereby accelerate progress toward the SDGs in their home country.



INDIVIDUAL WORKSHEET – CALL TO ACTION SDG TRANSFORMATION PLAN

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY POINTS: LEVERS	HUMAN WELLBEING AND CAPABILITIES	SUSTAINABLE AND JUST ECONOMIES	SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS AND HEALTHY NUTRITION	ENERGY DECARBONIZATION WITH UNIVERSAL ACCESS	URBAN AND PERI-URBAN DEVELOPMENT	GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMONS
GOVERNANCE						
ECONOMY AND FINANCE						
INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTION						
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY						
CAPACITY BUILDING						

During the exercise, each day focused on a different subset of entry points, while at the same time providing additional information and training in the various capacities that the 2023 GSDR outlines as particularly useful for driving transformations. Among these capacities are (GSDR, page 47):

- **Strategic direction and foresight** – Making decisions in a complex and integrated world requires the capacity to develop visions for long-term sustainable development and to engage actors to create ownership over shared goals; to strengthen the science-policy interface; to better understand and respond to new opportunities; and define strategies and steer action in line with shared goals.
- **Innovation and generation of new alternatives** – This requires the capacity to innovate, generate and select suitable and sustainable alternatives; to scale and replicate these solutions over time; and to provide protected and informal spaces to nurture innovation.
- **Orchestration, engagement and negotiation** – Working across silos and with all stakeholders is based on the capacity to coordinate action across various actors, sectors and scales; take a systems approach to synergies and trade-offs; foster political willingness and public awareness for change, including disruption of unsustainable trajectories; and to recognize conflicts and create safe spaces for engagement.
- **Identifying and overcoming impediments** – Shifting away from business-as-usual approaches demands the capacity to recognize unsustainable trajectories, diagnose system lock-ins, and undesired effects, and foster political willingness and public awareness for change.
- **Learning and resilience** – Generating knowledge about system dynamics and feedback will help governments and other stakeholders build more effective and resilient strategies. This involves strengthening institutions and networks through decentralization, increasing diversity and redundancy and monitoring and continuous learning.



The UNOSD will conduct a follow-up survey with Forum participants in the months ahead to see how their individual Call-to-Action SDG Transformation Plans are progressing and if they have additional insights and lessons learned that they wish to share.

## Session I: Poverty and climate- Building resilience of the poor and vulnerable to climate risks through climate action (SDGs 1, 13 & 17)

The first substantive topic session of the 2023 SDTF was moderated by **Dr. Therese Bennich**, Research Fellow with the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). Dr. Bennich opened this session on poverty and climate change resilience by emphasizing the importance of understanding SDG interlinkages: poor people and poor countries are more vulnerable and feel the negative impact of climate change more severely since they are highly dependent on natural resources and have limited capacity to cope with a variable and extreme climate.

### United Nations Early Warning for All Initiative

**Speaker: Ms. Daniella Cuellar Vargas**, Programme Officer, Multi-hazard Early-Warning Systems Office, World Meteorological Organization

Ms. Vargas set the context for disaster risk reduction, reminding participants that there is a global commitment for cutting greenhouse gas emissions to as close to zero as possible. The problem, she highlighted, is that a difference of just 0.5 degrees warming brings millions of people closer to disaster and it is even harder for people who are dependent on natural resources.

As a form of adaptation measure, an early warning system of even just 24 hours, can help reduce damage and loss. The Secretary-General announced in 2022 that the United Nations system launched an initiative “to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years”. The [Early Warnings for All Executive Action Plan](#) outlines four pillars including: disaster risk knowledge; detection, observations, monitoring, analysis and forecasting of hazards; preparedness and response capabilities; and warning dissemination and communication.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).



## Circularity, Competitiveness, and Inclusiveness for Resilient Green Transformation

**Speaker: Mr. Dukwoo Jun**, Lead, Circular Economy Community of Practice, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Mr. Jun described the multifaceted structure of the circular economy system consisting of various stakeholders, issues, and waste streams. He emphasized that while pursuing a green transition through Integrated Solid Waste Management, we need to understand that there are informal waste sectors involved, where the poor have maintained livelihoods based on recycling to survive. Just transitions play an important role in this context.

But there are other examples as well where just transitions are important in the context of green and resilient transitions. For example, consider electric vehicles (including battery recycling industry), carbon financing for waste-to-value projects (biogas project in Morocco and biochar project in Vietnam), advance farming practice with Circular Climate NEXUS in Ethiopia, and bioplastic use policy in Philippines. These are all examples of projects where GGGI works to advance sustainable markets and green and just transitions at the same time, as part of a circular economy approach.

## Country Case Presentation: Madagascar

**Speaker: Mr. Harinjaka Romuald Andriamiharisoa**, Director-General of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Madagascar

Madagascar is a mega-diverse country with an extensive coastline. In 2021, the country experienced its most severe drought, with sandstorms impacting farmland. Then in 2022, Madagascar experienced six storms and cyclones within three months, necessitating humanitarian assistance for 2 million people. Furthermore, two centuries of traditional practices have worsened the current impacts of climate change, namely slash and burn agriculture and deforestation for wood fuel.



In response, Madagascar has implemented an approach to enhance resilience over the short, medium and long-term:

- Short-term actions by planting sisals to protect from the invasion of sandstorms, and constructing desalination systems;
- Medium-term actions by reforestation; and
- Long-term and strategic actions including the circular economy, entrepreneurship, awards, green labels, national plans, diversity, and finance initiatives.

In spite of facing various problems related to climate change and poverty issues and challenges in infrastructure, capacity building, technology and funding, Madagascar has done its best at creating innovations, promoting local best practices, mobilizing partners, and using existing means.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Country Case Presentation: Republic of the Philippines, San Carlos City

**Speaker: Mr. Arthur Alfaro Batomalaque**, Supervising Environmental Management Specialist, Local Government Unit, San Carlos City, Philippines

San Carlos City is a carbon-neutral and award-winning city in the Philippines, boasting a Sustainable City program, Local Climate Change Plan, and Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan. It has several protected areas (natural parks and protected seascapes) including mangrove forests.

As part of the Sustainable City program, the local government runs the *HomeLot* for the poor programme, as well as various environmental protection programmes, and a water levy programme whereby water users are charged 1 peso for every cubic meter of water with proceeds going to a trust fund for watershed development. Another example is the city's *Fish Forever Programme* which has delivered improvements in terms of environment, socio-economic, and governance. The city also implements several renewable energy projects (e.g., ethanol plant, solar power, biomass power) which provides jobs and other benefits.

The city's success formula involves a combination of political will, self-reliance, innovativeness, participation and consultation, transparency, and unity and continuity. This has been the formula for how the city has thrived to become a carbon neutral city.

### Q&A Session

The Forum's Q&A session produced the following discussion.

**Question:** From the country case of the Philippines, could you share the strategies and recommendations from the national level?



- **Answer** (from Mr. Arthur Alfaro Batomalaque): It actually all started from the policies based on the local master development plan that was crafted with environmental goals, leading to regulation and regional and local coordination.

**Question:** For the case from the Philippines, what is the role of local leadership or government in developing the masterplan and other solutions? Is it because you had the same leader or group of leaders for all this time period?

- **Answer** (from Mr. Arthur Alfaro Batomalaque): It started from the master development plan that was created in 1999 with the help of an NGO in terms of finance and they established a board to make sure that master development plan continues. This has proven effective—the same mayors can stay for three terms with the election from people according to qualifications and there have now been 4 mayors in San Carlos City that still update the plan.

**Question:** It is good to see the two different country case from the Philippines and Madagascar. In the local government in the Philippines, they have renewable energy and nature-based solutions and protected areas. In Madagascar, are there any protected areas that use nature-based solutions?

- **Answer** (Mr. Harinjaka Romuald Andriamiharisoa): In Madagascar, we have a basis on how to maintain the areas that are affected by climate change. The first part of action is through finance. Through the World Food Programme, they provide food and work with schools and governance to implement production of food around the school by using ecological techniques as part of strategy. The big strategy is to stop the desertification process by planting sisals and using agroecology technology to protect the soil and to practice agricultural diversification.

The session concluded with additional perspectives provided by a discussant from the Government of Sri Lanka. **Mr. Sugath Yalegama**, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing, noted that through the presentations, we saw that the local level of the Philippines has a comprehensive system so that they can adapt to climate change and to address poverty. In Madagascar, we saw a similar system. In Sri Lanka, to address poverty, social protection systems and measures are implemented, together with an agriculture program. Also, as a whole nation, it is important to have the same voice on sustainability, and to have partnerships and use leverage at the country level to pursue green growth.

### Additional Resources

Using the Forum's WhatsApp platform, participants shared additional resources for addressing poverty and enhancing the resilience of the poor and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including:

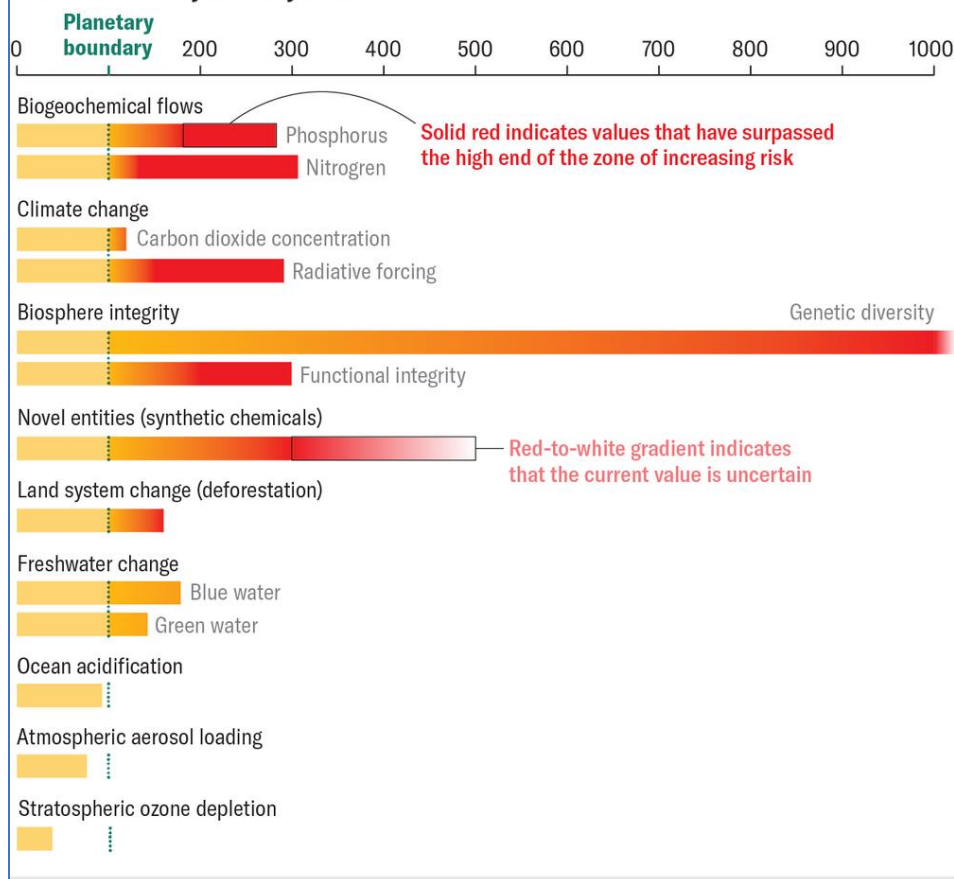
- **Planetary Boundaries** (see image below): <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/humans-have-crossed-6-of-9-planetary-boundaries/?amp=true>



## Quantifying the Nine Boundaries

Researchers evaluated Earth's current conditions with respect to nine "planetary boundaries" to better understand how humans have changed the planet from the preindustrial portion of the Holocene epoch. Each boundary reflects one or two quantitative measurements that are informed by but not limited to Holocene conditions. Above that boundary is a "zone of increasing risk" that is set where the scientists believe the probability of losing Holocene-like conditions increases. This chart maps each metric as a percentage of how far above or below the planetary boundary Earth currently is.

### Percent of Planetary Boundary Value



- **The United Nations Early Warnings for All Executive Action Plan:**
  - Overview video: <https://youtu.be/ptDZGYy30s>;
  - Website: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/early-warnings-for-all>;
  - Plan document: <https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/early-warnings-all-executive-action-plan-2023-2027>
- **Agroecology Conference (November 2023):** <https://www.wfp.org/news/ggpi-and-wfp-support-communities-frontlines-climate-crisis>



## Session II: Multifunctional Agriculture and Agroecology (SDGs 2 & 17)

Session moderator, **Ms. Grazyna Pulawska**, Associate Director at the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), set the stage for this topic by recounting her journey within ASEF to find powerful approaches and tools for the sustainability of food. She highlighted that one such powerful was the approach of multifunctional agriculture and agroecology.

### Agroecology for Food Security

**Speaker: Mr. Pierre Ferrand**, Agricultural officer, Food and Agriculture Organization

Mr. Ferrand articulated the global challenge as interconnected and in need of a systemic response. As part of this challenge, the current agricultural production system is no longer a sustainable option. He focused on agroecology, which applies ecological concepts based on co-creation of knowledge from scientists and producers to optimize interactions while considering the social aspects for a sustainable and fair food system. Agroecology is essentially a transformative pathway towards sustainable food systems and achieving SDG 2.

Agroecology has three main application goals: enhanced production and restoration; preservation of biodiversity above and below ground; and enhanced resilience to climatic variability. Agroecology can also accelerate the implementation of SDG 14, Life Below Water. It has been proven through studies and case studies that agroecology maintains the sustainability of production and the nutrition of food (e.g., legume and non-legume cropping systems and community-managed natural farming in India that can be scaled up as part of entrepreneurship, public investment, and cost reduction). There are also other benefits, such as reducing dependency on external inputs, increasing resilience of farming systems, strengthening local input systems and establishing community seed banks, and supporting local varieties and underutilized species.

As part of generating evidence and strengthening credibility, FAO developed a Tool for Agroecology Performance Evaluation (TAPE) to support agroecological transition, develop capacities, and to inform policy makers and development institutions. TAPE has been used in various countries and its survey has been translated into several languages. FAO also maintains other platforms include the Agroecology Knowledge Hub, a Community of Practices on Family Farming & Agroecology, and FAO's Family Farming Knowledge Platform.





## Two internationally recognized frameworks as a basis

### TAPE Step 1 (10 elements of agroecology):

**36 descriptive indices to assess the degree of transitions to agroecology**

### TAPE Step 2: measuring impact with 10 core criteria

Main dimension	#	Core criteria of performance	SDG	SDG indicators
Governance	1	Secure land tenure (mobility for pastoralists)	1	1.4.2
			2	2.4.1
Economy	2	Productivity	5	5.a.1
			2	2.3.1, 2.4.1
	3	Income	1	1.1.1, 1.2.1 and 1.2.2
			2, 10	2.3.2, 2.4.1, 10.2.1
4	Added value	10	10.1.1, 10.2.1	
Health & nutrition	5	Exposure to pesticides	3	3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3
			2	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.4.1
Society & Culture	7	Women's empowerment	2	2.4.1
			5	5.a.1, 5.a.2
Environment	8	Youth employment	8	8.6.1
			9	2.4.1, 2.5.1
	10	Soil health	15	2.4.1, 15.3.1

As part of fostering policy dialogue and advocacy, Mr. Ferrand shared several case examples on agroecology. The Rectangular Agroecology Systematic Approach in Cambodia (CASIC) deploys research, skills and human resources, extension services, and technologies and practices as pillars of a government coordination mechanism at the national level. In Vietnam, the National Action Plan for Transforming Food Systems has a strong focus on agroecology. In Lao, the LICA initiative (Lao Facilitated Initiative on Agroecology for ASEAN) shares successes and learning experience, facilitates inter-country analysis, and supports the design of guidelines.

Lastly, Mr. Ferrand informed Forum participants about the Agroecology Coalition Summit, which has coalition members, steering committee, working groups, and secretariat to facilitate exchange of knowledge, to promote investment and to seek political engagement.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Country Case Presentation: The Loss of an Ancestral Practice- The current situation of agroecology in Honduras

**Speaker: Mr. Leonardo Enrique Argueta**, Project Coordinator, Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment, Honduras

Mr. Argueta introduced 'Milpa' as a multi-crop growing technique used by the Mayan and other Mesoamerican people, as a traditional practice in Honduras. Even though the country has the traditional practice (which is sustainable), the regulation and policy of some states are not supporting agroecology.



As well, non-governmental organizations are focusing primarily on coffee and cacao, and thus have limited scope for supporting agroecology more broadly. In Honduras, the trend of agriculture is small-scale and subsistence farming in low land. For the highly profitable crops such as coffee and cocoa, it is centered in only a few owners.

In conclusion, Mr. Argueta shared the key challenges facing the application of traditional cropping practices, including a lack of a domestic market for agriculture products and a resistance of established farmers to change.



Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Country Case Presentation: Côte D'Ivoire

**Speaker: Ms. Rachelle Ida Yapo Epse Yapo**, Director of Sustainable Development Policies and Strategies, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Côte d'Ivoire

Ms. Yapo described how Côte d'Ivoire advances and checks progress on SDG 2, including via its Agriculture Orientation Law, the National Strategy for the Development of Rice Cultivation, the National Agriculture Investment Program, the implementation of Agro-Cluster projects, and the National Multi-sectoral Nutrition Information Platform. Among the challenges that are experienced are the creation of agricultural value chains, improving producer incomes, achieving food and nutrition security, and access to finance.



Presentation slides are available [here](#).

As session moderator, **Ms. Pulawska** concluded the topic presentations by noting that it is important to have quantity of solutions, yet, at the same time, quality is necessary since it is related to nutrition. The complexities of accelerating SDGs relating to food security illustrate why agroecology has become a technique that wins hearts and minds so that we can have the changes that we want to see and the future that we want to have.

### Group and Plenary Discussion

UNOSD consultant, **Mr. Darren Swanson**, facilitated an interactive breakout group and plenary discussion to address the question: **which of the Levers for SDG Transformation (e.g., governance, economy and finance, individual and collective action, science and technology, and capacity building) could best accelerate progress toward implementation of agroecology practices?**

Individual and group responses to the focus question were recorded to the Forum's virtual Padlet flip chart. All five levers were mentioned as necessary to accelerate implementation of agroecology practices, including:

- **Governance:** plans, programs and projects; political will; policies that support agroecology.
- **Individual and collective action:** diversification of crops to enable more efficient resource use in the long term; promotion of local consumption and production.
- **Economy and finance:** markets for agricultural products and financial support in the form of loans; create market structures to connect farmers to uptake markets, and through these market linkages, enable access to inputs needed to support productive systems.
- **Science and technology, capacity building:** knowledge sharing, demonstration centers, and training institutions; Integrated Indigenous and local knowledge into research; virtual farmers markets as easily accessible platforms for farmers to access market information to help with their investments.
- **Capacity building:** cherish traditional farming that promote diversity of crops, use of natural fertilizers, and proactive sharing of traditional knowledge.

To elaborate further on the examples provided, one participant commented that we need the political will and SDG 2 can be a main focus as a lever of *Governance*. For the lever of *Economy and Finance*, it is about markets for agriculture products with adjusted prices (local) and financial support (such as loan and agriculture banks). Regarding the lever of *Individual and Collective Action*, it is about local consumption and production. In terms of the lever of *Science and Technology*, we need to emphasize knowledge sharing (on how to store food in agriculture for a long time). Then, it is good to have a demonstration centre (to show sound approaches) and training institutions at the local level to support the implementation through the lever of *Capacity Building*. At the same time, there might be some challenges to progress on sustainable food systems and healthy nutrition, such as conflict and climate change.



Another participant shared that agroecology can help the sustainability of the land and health in the long term, and eventually to the realization that fertilizers are less important. With the understanding that agroecology will help the sustainability of the country in the long-term, the government should support progress by starting from the small scale.

### Additional Resources

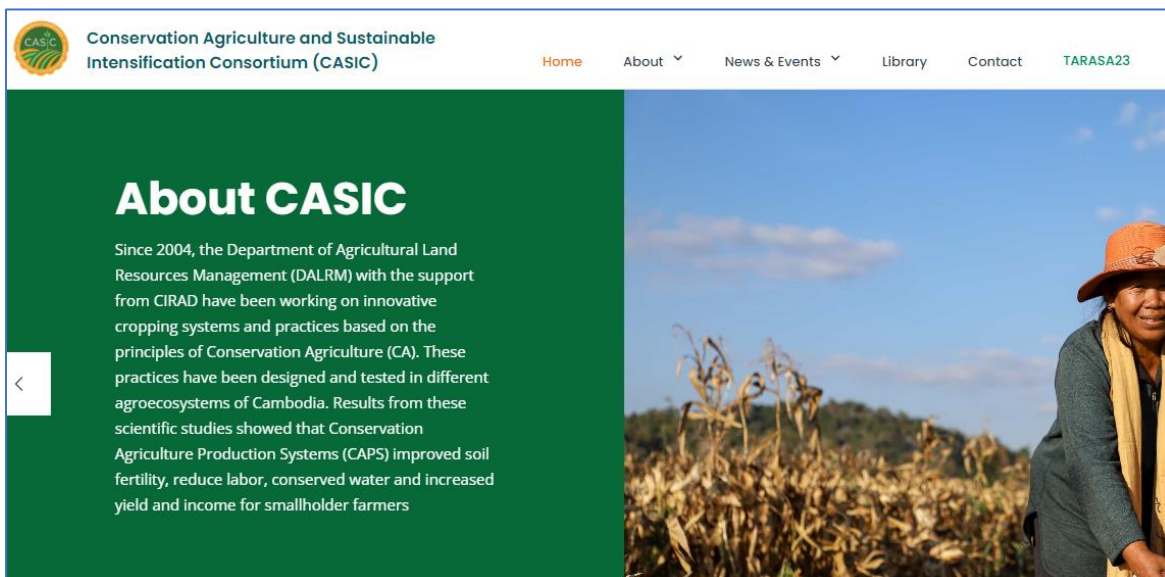
Additional resources were shared by participants via the Forum's WhatsApp channel, including:

- **Comments on accelerating progress toward Agroecology:**
  - Minimize dependency from conventional and industrial farming and shift towards agroecologically based food systems; Increase financing and capacity building to smallholder farmers to enhance their ability to transition towards agroecological approach; Foster inclusive governance to ensure full participation of smallholder farmers, especially women and youth; and Repurpose agricultural subsidies toward locally produced bio-inputs to accelerate green transition, cultivate diversity and increase farmers' autonomy.





- **Agroecology resources from the FAO:**
  - TAPE: <https://www.fao.org/agroecology/tools-tape/en/>
  - Agroecology website: <https://www.fao.org/agroecology/home/en/>
  - Community of Practice: <https://www.fao.org/agroecology/communityofpractice/en/>
  - Family farming website: <https://www.fao.org/family-farming/home/en/>
  - Agro-ecology Coalition: <https://agroecology-coalition.org/members/>
  - Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Intensification Consortium (CASIC) : <https://www.casiccambodia.net/>; <https://www.casiccambodia.net/tarasa>
  - Nature-based Solutions Framework for Agricultural Landscapes: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fenvs.2021.678367/full>
  - Nature-based Solutions for Agriculture: <https://www.fao.org/land-water/news-archive/news-detail/en/c/1373864/>
- **Agroecology conference (November 2023):**
  - <https://www.biodiversidad.gob.mx/planeta/Conagro2023/programa.html>



## Session III: Climate Finance, Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction and Inclusive Growth (SDGs 13 & 17)

As session moderator, **Prof. Laszlo Pinter** with the Central European University, reminded Forum participants that climate finance is an instrument to support green and inclusive economic growth. It is also one of the Levers for SDG Transformations, under the umbrella of economy and finance.



## Green Climate Fund Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender and Indigenous Peoples, and the Role of These in Financing a Just Transition

**Speaker: Mr. James Williams**, Manager, Office of Sustainability and Inclusion (OSI), Green Climate Fund

To improve environmental and social outcomes, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) uses a twofold design approach for its financing: (1) “do no harm”, by having protective and mitigative safeguards and focusing on risks and impacts; and (2) “do good”, by improving outcomes and leveraging environmental and social co-benefits. Mr. Williams also emphasized the GCF’s approach for Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS), which covers eight performance standards (see below).

Also, it is understood that climate change has different impacts for women and that women are more affected than men. Therefore, the GCF updated its gender policy by including gender assessment and a gender action plan in the criteria of funding proposals. GCF believes that sustainability is achieved when gender equality is achieved. Similarly, the GCF’s Indigenous Peoples Policy helps ensure that Indigenous Peoples benefit from GCF activities and projects in a culturally appropriate manner and do not suffer harm or adverse effects from the design and implementation of GCF-financed activities.



Relating to green and just transitions, the GCF’s strategic plan maintains a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation support and incorporates its evolving understanding of just and equitable transition pathways, striving for inclusive climate action.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).



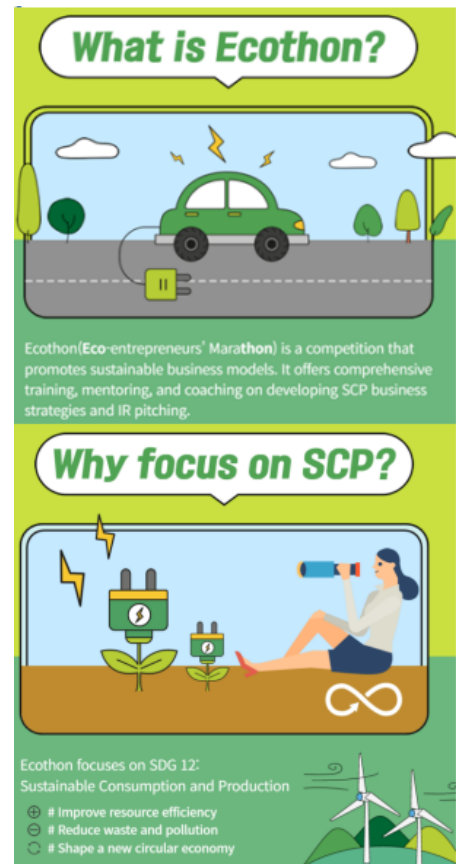
## Programme for 'Eco-Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Business' via Partnerships for Climate Action & Inclusive Growth

**Speaker: Ms. Hyun Jee**, International Cooperation Team Leader of the ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC)

The SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC), an initiative of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), is an international cooperation platform for eco-innovation of SMEs in ASEM countries. The platform's Ecothon (Eco-entrepreneurs' Marathon) Programme, uses sustainability, marketability, feasibility, innovation, and competitiveness as selection criteria to promote eco-entrepreneurship in ASEAN. Ecothon also serves to enable sustainable business development (including pitching) and partnerships for climate action, as well as provide climate finance for inclusive growth by using public funds for innovative business training and helping startups in the early stages of business development.

Through these programmes, ASEIC works to create win-win situations and continually look for more partnerships in various sectors, to network and build on existing programmes in the future.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).



## Country Case Presentation: Mongolia - Sustainable Development Goals: Policy and Financing Framework

**Speaker: Mr. Bathkuu Idesh**, State Secretary, Ministry of Economy and Development, Mongolia

Mongolia is implementing SDGs through its National Development Policy and Plan and its Vision 2050. Upon reviewing SDG progress in Mongolia, acceleration and additional funds are needed. Priorities have been set in eight transition sectors: education, health, science and technology, renewable energy, climate change, food security, sustainable production, and poverty. There is also one cross-cutting area of ensuring gender equality, and three means of implementation: fostering effective governance and policy coherence, supporting development, and boosting financing.

Sustainable financing initiatives in Mongolia are focusing on risk management and financing at the national level (via bonds and green taxonomy). A National Green Taxonomy has been approved to guide



financing, with specific categories, registrations, regulations, reporting, and products. At the same time, an Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF) was prepared and is in the process of adoption to integrate the SDGs with the public and private financing plan and policies and to collaborate with partners. The taxonomy and the INFF lead to a macroeconomic environment for sustainability. Some activities of INFF include implementing a tax policy, results-based planning and budgeting, and auditing. With regard to private finance, the INFF provides such aspects as a roadmap and guidance, a law on public-private partnerships, a law on investment, and a private green bond.



Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Country Case Example: Paraguay- Poverty, Reforestation, Energy and Climate Change


**Speaker: Ms. Maria Emilia Ayala**, Head of Climate Change, Risk Management and Environmental Affairs, Sustainable Development and Environment Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Paraguay

Important context for Paraguay is that half of its territory is forest. Implemented by the Government of Paraguay and UN FAO (United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization), PROEZA is a public social protection programme that combines a social cash transfer with a conditional environmental cash transfer scheme (with the help of Green Climate Fund). The purpose of PROEZA is to address both poverty and climate vulnerability in households by selecting the participants based on poverty indicator data.





PROEZA has three components. The first component is planting for the future (for women, Indigenous and peasant communities) with specific eligibility criteria and various models for household implementation that promotes productive diversification of farms and food security. The other components are sustainable landscapes and responsible markets. These are promoted through installation of high-yield plantations with financial support, a thematic table to analyze and validate proposal, and through partnerships, good governance, and law enforcement.



# PROEZA

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PROEZA Models for Household Implementation

<b>Model 1. Reforesting land plot with 20% native species and 80% fast growing species to produce board wood or other income generating products such as eucalyptus leaves</b>
<b>Model 2. Reforesting with 50% native species and 50% fast growing species (e.g. eucalyptus)</b>
<b>Model 3. Regenerating degraded forest on land plot</b>
<b>Model 4. Cultivating Mate herb (tea) among degraded forest</b>
<b>Model 5. Cultivate native tree species for board wood and fast-growing citrus tree species</b>
<b>Model 6. Native tree species for board Wood and mate production as cover crop</b>

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

## Q&A Session

**Question:** For the ASEIC presentation, how can the projects support the SDGs, especially in SDGs for environment?

- **Answer** (by Ms. Hyun Jee): SMEs represent the majority of the market in every country. Knowing this, it is important to promote the development of SMEs through the incentive of sustainable business models that can make profit, have a solid market, and support the environment and circular economy. The ASEIC programme has different stages of development. With the majority of SMEs in the early stage of start-up, ASEIC provides training, competition and investment.

**Question:** Is there any programme that helps innovation of SDGs related to the environment in Latin America?



- **Comment** (Ms. Sara Castro Hallgren, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD): The European Union has programmes in Latin America. Also, there are organizations that have worked on similar areas to ASEIC in Latin America (see the [‘Additional Resources’](#) section below for more information).

**Question:** The outcome of this session today is to bring progress from local and small areas, meanwhile the Global Sustainable Development Report recommends approaches to accelerate and achieve the 2030 Agenda. How should we see from the outcome that we have come so far with concentrating at such a small scale?

- **Answer** (Mr. James Williams): The small and specific actions of projects are crucial for the big picture. Not only does the GCF wish to achieve outcomes for both mitigation and adaptation, we would also like to see the high chance of replicability in different topics, such as renewable energy and green cities. If the project gets chosen, it leads to the opportunity of success for replicating the project in different areas.

**Question:** Based on statistics, what is the distribution in terms of allocation of financing from the Green Climate Fund by continent? Also, what type of business has access to those funds?

- **Comment** (by Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren): Africa is the second region that receives the most funding from the GCF according to open data (see the [GCF Dashboard](#) for more information).
- **Answer** (Mr. James Williams): The second question is about how a decision is made for allocation and funding. This considers three criteria: (1) transformation potential, related to climate impact in terms of mitigation and adaptation; (2) transformation broadening, involving inclusivity for refugees, women and others, and (3) target areas, such as small islands and Africa as priority.

**Question:** For Paraguay’s presentation, may I know the conditions for PROEZA that is, such as through number of kids or how big the land is?

- **Answer** (by Ms. Maria Emilia Ayala): The main condition of the PROEZA relating to the conditional cash transfer scheme, is that they should be part of the Tekopora programme that has already been supporting poor and extreme poor households through cash transfers and guidance for access to public services. To be part of Tekopora, the main condition is to send their children to school.
- **Comment:** From here, we can see that there is expectation and recognition, not only through the financial capacity, but also from the perspective of multidimensional poverty.


**Question:** For Mongolia’s presentation, how is INFF measured? Also, what kind of capacity helps to issue bonds? Is it the support from UNDP or from other systems?



- **Answer** (Mr. Bathkuu Idesh): INFF is based on assessment from the SDG trackers of UNESCAP, to start the process. We received funds from the GCF through private sector banks. Government, private sector, and with the support of NGOs, have seen the green bond issuance and green finance as a big market to approach. With the understanding that SDGs cannot be achieved only with financing, working with the private sector through PPPs and national and international partnerships and policy, brings environmental and infrastructure projects as well as aspects of the international and domestic judicial system.

**Question:** How are funds received from the Green Climate Fund in Mongolia?

- **Answer** (Mr. Bathkuu Idesh): The private sector (Xac Bank) is actively implementing the project. They have made the assessment and proposal to the GCF and receive the funds from GCF to work with SMEs entrepreneurs.
- **Comment** (Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren): Private sector banks have empowered Mongolia to effectively manage GCF financing. However, other climate and SDG financing instruments are green bonds, blue bonds that are related to marine priorities and coastal environments, and orange bonds that are related to social protection, health and other Sustainable Development Goals. Related to the question on INFFs, every country has a UN RCO (Resident Coordinator Office) that has an economist and partnerships and finance officer to support the country's sustainable development and the topic of INFFs is a priority. UN DESA has published two courses by UN agencies on this topic that take only two hours and member states can easily sign up to take them on the [UN DESA Digital Learning Centre](#).

 <p>INFF   Integrated National Financing Frameworks</p> <p>Self-paced course</p>	 <p>INFF   Integrated National Financing Frameworks</p> <p>Self-paced course</p>
<h2>Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs): From theory to practice</h2>	<h2>Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs): An introduction</h2>
<p>How are your country's sustainable development objectives being financed? Are there gaps? Gain confidence in designing and implementing an INFF to help strengthen financing processes and practices in your context.</p> <p>Finance, Governance and Institution Building, Sustainable Development, Transparency and Accountability</p>	<p>How are your country's sustainable development objectives being financed? Are there gaps and misalignments that could undermine their achievement?</p> <p>Learn about how INFFs can help strengthen financing processes and practices in your country.</p> <p>Finance, Governance and Institution Building, Sustainable Development, Transparency and Accountability</p>



## Additional Resources

Additional resources were shared by participants via the Forum's WhatsApp channel, including:

- **Financing in Latin America:**
  - Al-Invest Green Programme, Circular Economy in Textiles: [https://alinvest-verde.eu/en\\_gb/en-el-marco-del-programa-al-invest-verde-se-lanza-proyecto-para-impulsar-la-economia-circular-en-las-mipymes-textiles/](https://alinvest-verde.eu/en_gb/en-el-marco-del-programa-al-invest-verde-se-lanza-proyecto-para-impulsar-la-economia-circular-en-las-mipymes-textiles/)
  - Al-Invest Green Programme: [https://alinvest-verde.eu/en\\_gb/](https://alinvest-verde.eu/en_gb/)
  - European Union Green Economy Investment in Peru: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/per%C3%BA/cerca-de-un-mill%C3%B3n-y-medio-de-euros-ser%C3%A1n-destinados-impulsar-proyectos-de-econom%C3%ADa-verde-y\\_es?s=162](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/per%C3%BA/cerca-de-un-mill%C3%B3n-y-medio-de-euros-ser%C3%A1n-destinados-impulsar-proyectos-de-econom%C3%ADa-verde-y_es?s=162)
  - Green Financing and SMEs: <https://www.caf.com/es/conocimiento/visiones/2023/05/funciona-el-financiamiento-verde-a-pymes/>
  - Green SMEs in Peru: <https://libelula.com.pe/publicaciones/una-mirada-al-ecosistema-financiero-para-las-pymes-verdes-en-el-peru/>
- **Green Climate Fund:** <https://www.greenclimate.fund/projects/dashboard>
- **Integrated National Financing Frameworks:**
  - Website: <https://inff.org/>
  - E-learning: <https://inff.org/resource/integrated-national-financing-frameworks-inffs-e-learning-course-an-introduction>
  - Resources: <https://inff.org/resource/integrated-national-financing-frameworks-inffs-e-learning-course-an-introduction>

## Session IV: Open and Inclusive Data for the SDGs (SDGs 16 & 17)

As session moderator, **Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren** with the UNOSD, emphasized the importance of strengthening multi-level governance in the public sector and in international cooperation, as well as increasing the availability of SDG data and closing SDG data gaps at all levels. Increased financing for data and statistics, and enhanced capacity building support to developing countries are also priorities to inform planning and acceleration of SDGs.

SDG Synergies: a tool to support decision making in implementing the 2030 Agenda

**Speaker: Dr. Therese Bennich**, Research Fellow, SEI (Stockholm Environment Institute)

Dr. Bennich began by articulating a key implementation challenge of the 2030 Agenda: it is meant to be treated as an integrated and indivisible whole. This is a challenge because there is limited data on interlinkages at local and national levels. Furthermore, governments have limited resources and public administrations are often not organized to deal with cross-cutting issues. Therefore, there is a need for



methods and tools to capture trade-offs and synergies and create more robust, effective, and resource-efficient strategies for implementation.

The central questions to address relates to *How to prioritize?* And *How to organize collaboration?* SDG Synergies is a tool that helps users to record, visualize, and analyze how multiple policy objectives interact, based on a participatory discussion and scoring process. The tool generates a matrix of cross-impact interactions between all objectives being considered. This reveals how progress on one objective affects progress on other objectives, and vice versa.

In an application in Mexico, interactions between water management and climate change policies were analyzed at three scales- the city, state, and national levels. The analysis integrated knowledge of local, regional, and national experts and stakeholders. In Sweden, support for SDG implementation was analyzed in six municipalities, the results of which informed the Government of Sweden's Voluntary National Review.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the SDG Synergies website. The header features the UNOSD logo, the text 'SDG SYNERGIES', navigation links for 'THE TOOL', 'EXPERIENCES', 'TESTIMONIALS', 'LEARN MORE', and 'SIGN UP', and the SEI Stockholm Environment Institute logo. The main content area has a large heading 'SDG Synergies' and a descriptive paragraph: 'Making effective policy often means balancing sets of highly connected but very diverse targets. Striking the right balance can unlock synergies that bring multiple targets closer. The wrong one can see momentum lost, and progress on one target pushing others out of reach.' Below this is another paragraph: 'SDG Synergies is a practical tool for understanding how groups of policy areas and targets interact, using systems thinking. Designed by researchers at Stockholm Environment Institute originally to support governments in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, SDG Synergies'. To the right, there are three buttons: 'REQUEST AN ACCOUNT', 'DOWNLOAD THE MANUAL', and 'VIDEO TUTORIAL'. At the bottom right, there is a colorful illustration of people interacting with large 3D blocks representing various SDGs, including '1 NO POVERTY', '14 LIFE BELOW WATER', '16 PEACE AND JUSTICE, STRONG INSTITUTIONS', and '11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES'.

Among Dr. Bennich's key reflections are that it is important to use a structured process for facilitating systems thinking in decision-making when prioritizing SDG actions, and to ground the analysis with stakeholder collaboration over different sectors. A systems analysis also helps overcome data gaps and can guide further data collection.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).



## Country Case Presentation: Peru- Role of data to strengthen foresight and strategic planning

**Speaker: Mr. Jordy Vilayil Vilchez Astucuri**, Director of the National Directorate of Foresight and Strategic Planning, National Center of Strategic Planning, Peru

Mr. Astucuri informed Forum participants of Peru’s 2050 Vision for people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships. The vision is guided by the country’s 2050 Strategic National Development Plan (PEDN) for sustainable and balanced development in the long term. There exist two mechanisms to help the national and subnational governments implement and navigate the plan:

- **Territorial Information Platform for Strategic Planning:** facilitates access to relevant territorial information for strategic planning processes at the national and subnational levels; and
- **National Observatory of Foresight:** an information platform for future-oriented decision-making for consultation and use of planners and the public.

The current strategic planning process began in 2016 supported by a technical scientific process, including using foresight methods, and a broad process of social dialogue to bring the initial idea to people across the country and to build the strategy from there. A key question asked during stakeholder engagements was: *What vision of the country do you like to live in by 2030 and beyond?* Finally in 2019, after three years, a consensus and shared vision was approved at the highest institutional level of state policies.



**Territorial Information Platform for Strategic Planning**


A platform that facilitates access to relevant territorial information for strategic planning processes at the national and subnational levels

 [geo.ceplan.gob.pe](http://geo.ceplan.gob.pe)

 See and download bibliographic, statistical, and geospatial information of a territory

Create thematic maps with the specialized geographic scope for strategic planning

Information at regional and provincial levels. 87 layers of selected information.

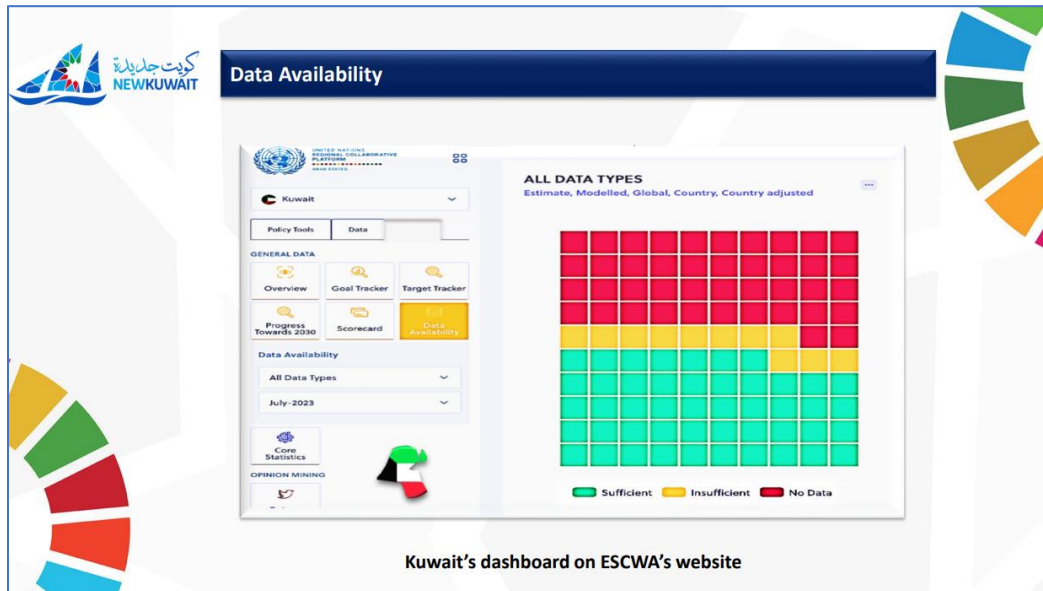
Criteria for creating a vision and mission include: it has to be transformative; and must motivate a structural change or a change in the state of things. It must also be innovative and contribute to something new and be able to inspire important achievements. But it also has to be achievable in order for it to be a viable guide for collective action.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Country Case Presentation: Kuwait – Open and Inclusive Data

**Speaker: Ms. Fay Alnajadah**, Researcher, National Observatory for Sustainable Development and Future Foresight, Kuwait

Ms. Alnajadah described the alignment of development plans of the state of Kuwait with the 2030 Agenda and how strategic foresight approaches and tools are used to enhance planning through macroeconomic modelling, scenario planning, and policy analysis. For example, Kuwait’s SDG dashboard, hosted on UNESCWA’s regional collaboration platform website and open to the public, measures how well actual outcomes compare with the intended policy goals, providing clear indicators of successful divergence. Generally, availability and access to accurate up to date and comprehensive data at the national level is challenging; however, it is being addressed through the online SDG dashboard. Data integration often requires combining data from multiple sectors which can be complex and resource intensive.



Kuwait's Permanent National Steering Committee for implementation of 2030 Agenda for SDGs was formed in 2017. The Committee is led by the Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development and comprises members from the Council, the Central Statistical Bureau, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, along with stakeholders from the private sector, civil society, local communities, and international organizations.

Regarding inclusive data and leaving no one behind, the government hosted its "Sustainable Development Week" during November 2022 to engage all entities and partners in sustainable development to inform preparation of the country's Voluntary National Review. In 2019, Kuwait issued its first VNR and in July 2023 published its second. As the VNR is not meant as a governmental report, everyone needs to contribute to provide a comprehensive perspective, especially gaining insights from private sector and civil society.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

### Q&A and Discussion Session

**Comment:** In Myanmar, progress made on SDGs is tracked with data and statistics. Through coordination with all public departments and agencies and through previous consultations, an SDG progress report was issued in 2022. It is important to increase the availability of SDG data and also close the SDG data gaps at all levels. Also, it is important to enhance the capacity support in developing countries on data.

**Question:** Aside from government sources, what other data sources did Peru use?





- Internet coverage is not always great everywhere, and that is a gap. It is important to work with partners in academia and research centres to gather information, including from global to local contexts.

**Question:** What efforts did Kuwait put into collecting data?

- International indices and benchmarks were also used to gauge Kuwait's progress.

### Additional Resources

Additional resources were shared by participants via the Forum's WhatsApp channel, including:

- **Systems approaches:**
  - SDG Synergies: <https://www.sdg synergies.org/>
  - Creating Adaptive Policies: A Guide for Policymaking in an Uncertain World: <https://idrc-crdi.ca/en/book/creating-adaptive-policies-guide-policy-making-uncertain-world>
- **Kuwait:**
  - UNDP Integrated SDG Insights: <https://sdgpush-insights.undp.org/kuwait>
  - Kuwait 2023 Voluntary National Review: [https://scpd.gov.kw/archive/VNR2\\_English\\_Final.pdf](https://scpd.gov.kw/archive/VNR2_English_Final.pdf)
  - Kuwait launches world's largest re-vegetation project: <https://livingbusiness.com/kuwait-launches-worlds-largest-re-vegetation-project/>
  - KUWAIT - Through Our Eyes (PART 1): <https://youtu.be/zlJX1v9u2wc?si=uDs2AmPbWIRqXgLO>
  - KUWAIT - Through Our Eyes (PART 2): [https://youtu.be/KcGkNM2SHY0?si=gJM\\_KG0DX3NkuDF8](https://youtu.be/KcGkNM2SHY0?si=gJM_KG0DX3NkuDF8)
  - KUWAIT - Through Our Eyes (PART 3): <https://youtu.be/rw4DOo0aTUI?si=BhuSIRkJjw2fbEL4>

## Session V: From 2023 SDG Summit to 2024 Summit of the Future

As session moderator, Mr. Simon Gilby with the UNOSD, reminded Forum participants of the [SDG Summit](#) which was held last month at the UN General Assembly in New York and how the focus of this topic session is to describe and discuss how we get from there to the [Summit of the Future](#) that will be convened next year, including the path for the future that this summit will deliver.

[Our Common Agenda and the Summit of the Future: Supporting acceleration of the SDGs](#)

**Speaker: Ms. Astra Bonini**, Senior Sustainable Development, Division for SDGs, UNDESA

[Our Common Agenda](#) is a report released in 2021 that outlines the UN Secretary-General's vision for the future of global cooperation. The report highlights that we are on the brink of breakdown where business as usual is not an option going forward. Fundamentally, *Our Common Agenda* calls for a



fundamental rethink of the political, economic, social and environmental systems. This is about transformation, which is the theme of this forum.

The 2024 Summit of the Future is described as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to enhance cooperation on critical challenges and address gaps in global governance, reaffirm existing commitments including to the SDGs and the United Nations Charter, and move towards a reinvigorated multilateral system that is better positioned to positively impact people’s lives. The summit is motivated by the major global shocks experienced in recent years – including the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine war, and the triple planetary crisis, among others. These have all challenged our international institutions, and therefore, unity around our shared principles and common goals is now both crucial and urgent.

Building on the SDG Summit in 2023, Member States will consider ways to lay the foundations for more effective global cooperation that can deal with today’s challenges as well as new threats in the future. Recommendations from the Summit will be articulated in a [Pact for the Future](#), declared by Member States, with Germany and Namibia serving as chairs.

At the invitation of Member States, the Secretary-General prepared a series of eleven [Policy Briefs](#) to provide more detail on certain proposals contained in [Our Common Agenda](#) and to support Member States in their deliberations as they prepare for the Summit of the Future (see the eleven topics below). These briefs are informed by the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, with gender equality as a cross-cutting theme.



Presentation slides are available [here](#).



United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs



## Country Perspective: Cameroon

**Speaker: Mr. Serge Pamphile Mezang Akamba**, First Counselor, Permanent Mission to the United Nations of Cameroon

Mr. Akamba’s address to the forum acknowledged that the planet is in danger, with the state of the world being worse than eight years ago at the time we adopted the 2030 Agenda. He described that the global community must get away and escape from fatality and inaction; therefore, he continued, Cameroon welcomes the 2024 *Summit of the Future* and we commend the initiative as timely.

He both cautioned and reminded Forum participants that, in the past, the global community has produced very good ideas, declarations (i.e., the Universal declaration of Human rights for 75 years now, the Stockholm declaration and Action Plan for more than 50 years, the commitment to allocating 0.7 per cent of the GNI of rich countries to ODA for almost 50 years, the Rio declaration for 30 years, the broken promise of 100 billion goal to climate action by 2020, to name but a few).

Mr. Akamba emphasized that the world cannot pretend to do the same thing repeatedly and pretend to obtain a different result. For this reason, he amplified the Secretary-General’s recent statement during the recent United Nations General Assembly debate urging “**Statesmanship, not Gamesmanship and Gridlock**”. He further articulated that if this time of crises imposes a time of change, we urge for change in diplomacy to **strengthen multilateralism**, for cooperation to take precedence over competition, for international solidarity to take precedence over particular and selfish interests in the short term.

He therefore urged the global community to address the reforms that are necessary at the level of the United Nations and at the level of international financial institutions, including effective measures to alleviating debt burden which hinder progress at all levels.

Mr. Akamba expressed hope, describing that although we are on the edge of the abyss, there is still time, it is still possible to save the planet, to eradicate poverty, to ensure prosperity for all in a peaceful world. But, he stressed, to deal with the future, we must have the courage to face the present with humility.





## Country Perspective: Lao PDR

**Speaker: Mr. Alomlangsy Rajvong**, Director of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, LAO DPR

Mr. Rajvong provided some suggestions for the current eleven policy brief proposals informing the Summit of the Future. First, it would be practical to combine the Future Generations and the Youth Engagement proposals into one. In Lao PDR's 6<sup>th</sup> National Development Report, the title is about youth, given that one-third of the population being classified as youth. As well, nations need to look beyond GDP as an overall measure of progress, and so should consider social, environment, and economic components. The international financial architecture is also in need of reform, as was underscored in the recent General Assembly debates. In this context, Lao PDR has prepared its Integrated National Financing Framework. Regarding a new agenda for peace and the proposals for a UN 2.0, these to go hand-in-hand. Relating to the Entry Points and Levers for SDG transformation, human wellbeing, food, and healthcare are critical aspects. And finally, it should be stated that there is no peace without development and no development without peace.

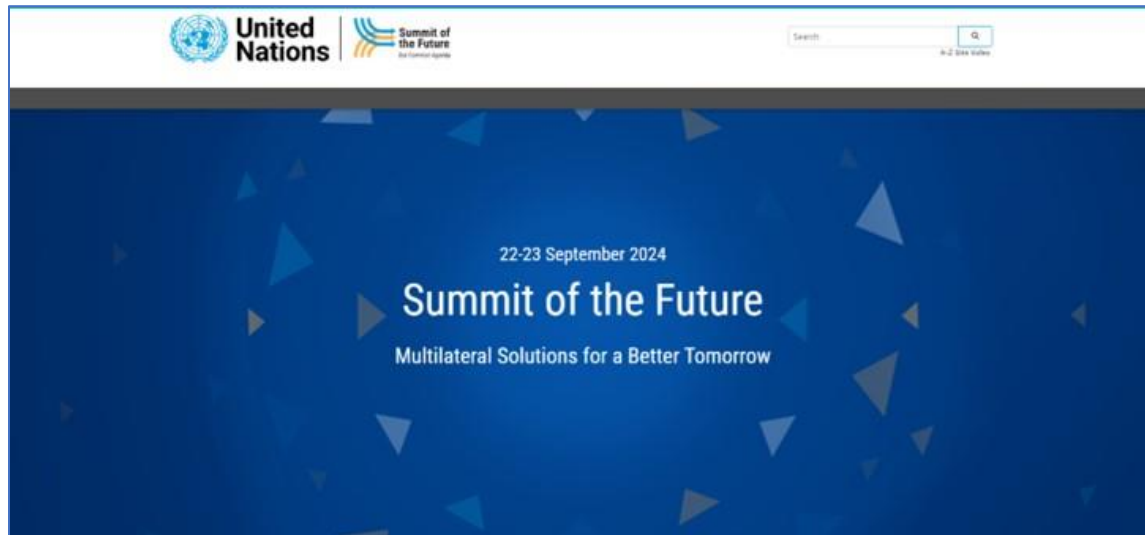


## Youth Perspectives

**Speakers: Mr. Minn Va Hein and Ms. Antonette Tagpinez**, 2023 UNOSD SDGs Youth Summer Camp Participant

**Mr. Vinn** addressed the Forum and emphasized that youth should be an independent decision-maker when it comes to discussing ways to accelerate progress toward the SDGs. He elaborated by recognizing that youth solutions are usually turned down and dismissed, and this is why youth should be considered as an independent decision maker in the UN system, rather than as a Youth Envoy as it stands now. Mr. Vinn also described the work he advanced during the recent UNOSD SDG Youth Summer Camp on the topic of EcoSwap, an online second-hand clothes swap emporium. He emphasized that without resources, the project is not likely to see the light of day.

**Ms. Tagpinez** described her current professional work with the Department of Education in the Philippines. She emphasized that in thinking about the future, we need to recognize and anticipate that rapid advancement of artificial intelligence will transform learning. As well, we must recognize that youth have new perspectives and ideas, but just need the resources take action.



## Plenary Discussion

Participants further reflected on the topics of the eleven policy briefs and shared some additional insights from their country context. These insights included the following:

- Sometimes unilateral measures are being taken regarding climate change and the protection of the environment. We need consensus, not unilateralism.
- Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration is paramount in regard to common but differentiated responsibilities.
- We need to build consensus on the importance of consensus.
- Leadership and political will play a key role in transformations. The global community needs to recommit for SDG implementation, recognize the challenge, and make recommendations for acceleration.
- There is currently an erosion of principle and backtracking. We need credibility, coming from trust and honouring commitments.
- The representative from Cameroon mentioned some very important words including strong leadership and the need for statesmanship and not gamesmanship. Such words are important in times of crisis and change.

## Additional Resources

Additional resources were shared by participants via the Forum's WhatsApp channel, including:

- **Summit of the Future website:** <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/summit-of-the-future>
- **Our Common Agenda Policy Briefs:** <https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda/policy-briefs>



## Session VI: Nature-based Solutions for Accelerating the SDGs

As session moderator, **Ms. Grazyna Pulawska** with the Asia-Europe Foundation, introduced their forthcoming publication on [Advancing Urban Sustainability in Cities through Nature-based Solutions](#), which explores trends and lessons learned from 100 cases of nature-based solutions across Asia.



Report Launch- [Advancing Urban Sustainability in Cities through Nature-Based Solutions: Lessons from Asia](#)


**Speaker: Prof. Laszlo Pinter**, Central European University (CEU)

Dr. Pinter began by defining nature-based solutions (NbS) as the purposeful use of nature in urban and peri-urban areas to achieve certain objectives. The Asia-Europe Foundation initiated a project last year to collect and analyse data on urban NbS projects in Asia to enrich understanding and put forward recommendations for scaling up NbS in Asian cities. He described how Asian cities are already embracing NbS as means to address various sustainability challenges. Integration of NbS into city planning allows for harnessing the transformative potential of nature in addressing sustainability challenges. The role of local governments is essential in scaling up the implementation of NbS and promoting community-based approaches to urban planning and development. Furthermore, to enhance decision-making and planning processes, it is crucial to advance monitoring systems to measure NbS impacts, ensuring they are equipped with reliable, evidence-based data. While addressing climate change serves as a prominent driving force for implementing NbS in Asia, project developers should also capitalize on the added value of multiple benefits that NbS projects can deliver.




**Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)** are deliberate interventions that are inspired or supported by nature.


“living solutions that bring more nature and natural features into cities ... through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions” (European Commission, 2017).




1. Building greens (external)




2. Green areas connected to grey infrastructure




3. Parks and (semi)natural urban green areas




4. Allotments and community gardens




5. Green indoor areas



6. Blue areas



7. Green areas for water management



8. Derelict areas

L. Pinter

Dr. Pinter outlined the forthcoming report’s key messages as follows:

1. Asian cities are embracing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) as means to address various sustainability challenges.
2. Integration of NbS into city planning will allow for harnessing the transformative potential of nature in addressing sustainability challenges.
3. The role of local governments is essential in scaling up the implementation of NbS and promote community-based approaches to urban planning and development.
4. To enhance decision-making and planning processes, it is crucial to advance monitoring systems to measure NbS impacts, ensuring they are equipped with reliable, evidence-based data.
5. While addressing climate change serves as a prominent driving force for implementing NbS in Asia, project developers should also capitalise on the added value of multiple benefits that NbS projects can deliver.

Presentation slides are available [here](#).

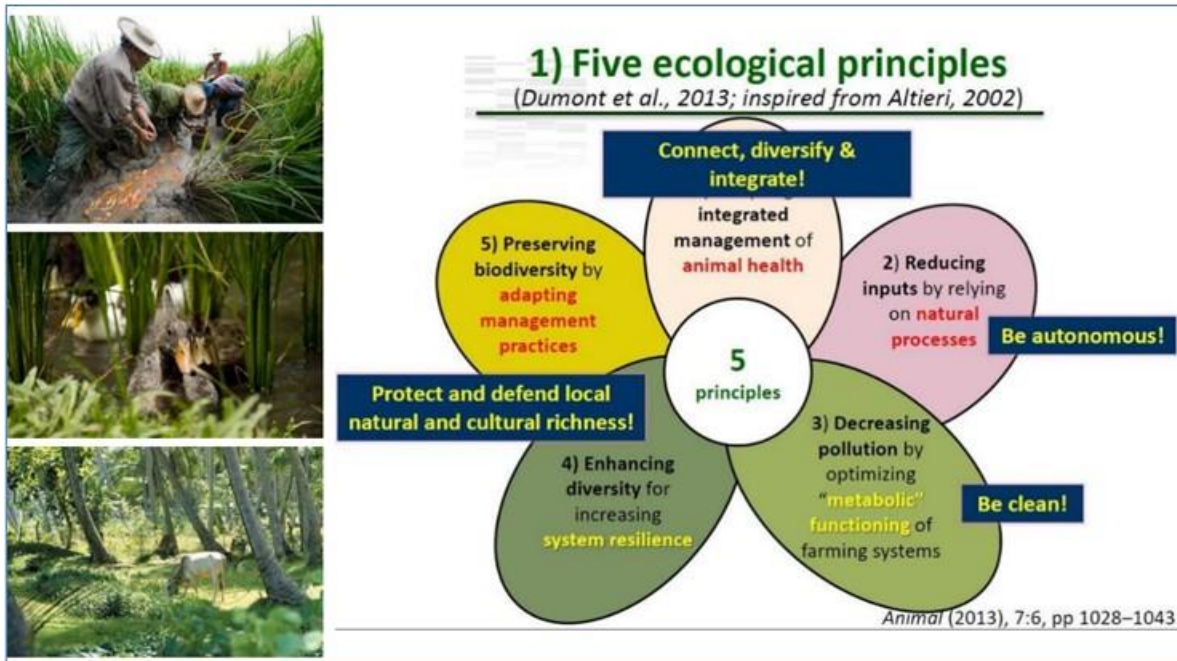
### Agroecology and Nature-based Solutions

**Speaker: Mr. Pierre Ferrand**, Agricultural officer, Food and Agriculture Organization

Building on his presentation earlier in the Forum on [agroecology](#), Mr. Ferrand elaborated that many agroecology practices can be classified as nature-based solutions targeted at food-related outcomes. Therefore, agriculture producers and smallholder farmers have critical role in implementing NbS to



achieve multiple co-benefits in rural and peri-urban areas. As well, policymakers have a role to play in helping to scale up agroecology practices and nature-based solutions.



### Q&A and Discussion Session

A practical question was posed by one participant, asking **how is the practice of nature-based solutions (NbS) any different than ecosystem-based approaches (EbA) that have already been practiced now for decades?** In responding to the question, UNOSD consultant, Mr. Darren Swanson, and Dr. Pinter each elaborated that NbS and EbA are more or less talking about the same thing, but that NbS is perhaps a more purposeful use of nature to achieve specific benefits for a community (e.g., water quality, flood protection) compared to just using built infrastructure alone.

### Training Exercise on Nature-based Solutions

Session moderator, Ms. Gina Pulawska, and NbS expert, Dr. Laszlo Pinter, led the Forum participants through an interactive training exercise on nature-based solutions for accelerating the SDGs and enhancing resilience to climate change.

The purpose of the training exercise was to give Forum participants an opportunity to explore and understand the potential of NbS in addressing specific urban sustainability challenges. The steps in the exercise were as follows:





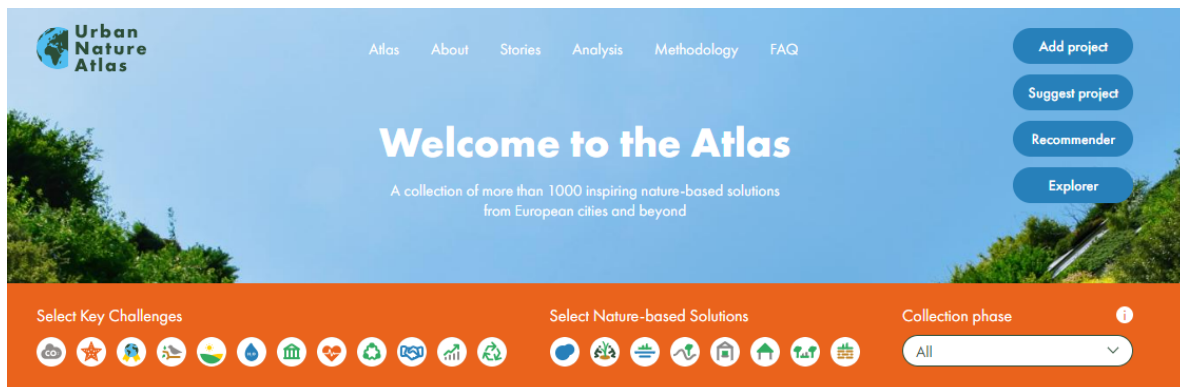
1. Working with others around your table, select one of the following three priority urban (un)sustainability challenges: Climate action for adaptation, resilience and mitigation; Green space, habitats and biodiversity; and Water management.
2. Discuss how the problem is manifested in 1 to 2 cases in a city you are familiar with and its connection with the SDGs.
3. Go to the Urban Nature Atlas on your phone or laptop ([www.una.city](http://www.una.city)) and using the UNA's search function, look up 2 to 3 NBS examples that you find both interesting and relevant for the challenge you identified.
4. What would it take (governance, economy/finance, individual & collective action, science & technology, capacity building) to implement the NbS in your example?

The group discussions helped to further advance participant's understanding of how the Levers of transformation from the 2023 GSDR can be considered for scaling up application of sustainable practices like nature-based solutions.

### Additional Resources

Additional resources were shared by participants via the Forum's WhatsApp channel, including:

- **NbS Framework for agricultural landscapes:**  
<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fenvs.2021.678367/full>
- **Three things to know about NbS for agriculture:** <https://www.fao.org/land-water/news-archive/news-detail/en/c/1373864/>
- **Urban Nature Atlas:** <http://www.una.city/>
- **Guidelines for integrating ecosystem-based adaptation into national adaptation plans – Supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines:**  
<https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/36703;jsessionid=A664C727FF239899A7A53C52841D7401>





## Forum Closing Session and Conclusions

### Working Session on Development of the Incheon Communiqué

The Incheon Communiqué is a one-page executive summary of the Forum’s deliberations. Its purpose is to highlight the Forum’s key insights and practical recommendations for accelerating progress towards the SDGs that will be in focus at the High-level Political Forum in 2024. At the conclusion of each day of the Forum, participants were asked to reflect on their key takeaway messages from the topic sessions that day. These results are summarized in the word cloud images below.

#### Day 1



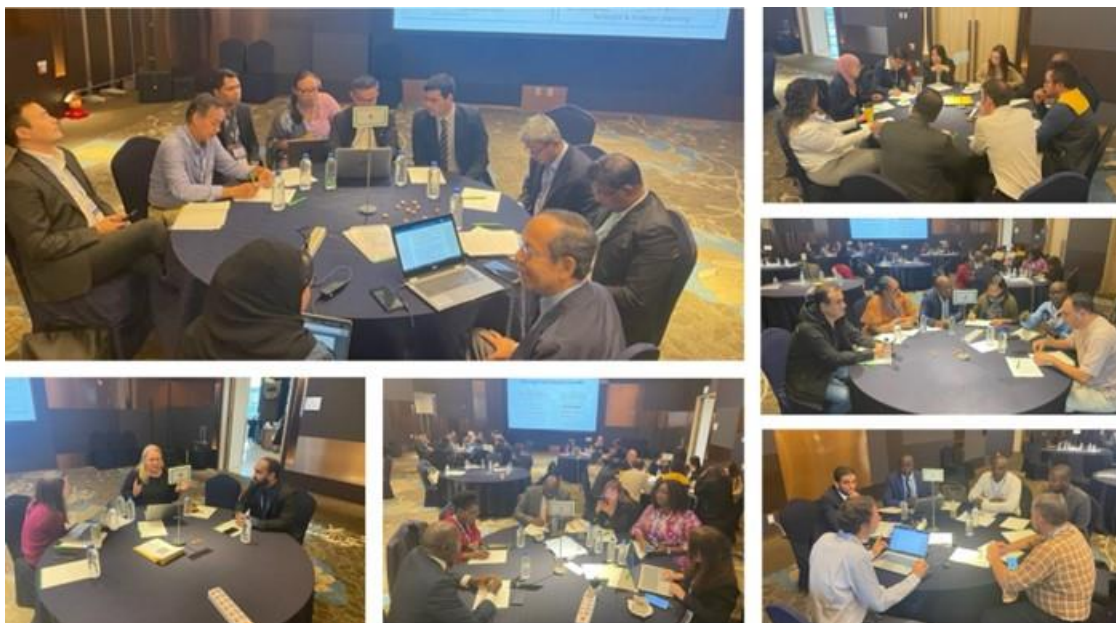
#### Day 2



#### Day 3



To provide input into the drafting of the 2023 Incheon Communiqué, participants worked in one of six breakout groups, corresponding to the six topic sessions of the Forum (see image below). With a tight deadline, each group drafted a 60-word statement capturing the key message of their respective topic session. These contributions were then compiled and used to prepare the 2023 Incheon Communiqué, which can be found at the beginning of this report and at this [link](#).





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## Closing Reflections and Remarks

**Ms. Grażyna Pulawska**, Associate Director with the Asia-Europe Foundation, an organizational partner for the 2023 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum, described how, prior to the SDGs, ASEF worked on a scenario building process that included three scenarios: Business-as-Usual, Incremental Changes, and Radical Reform. In reflecting at the closing of the Forum, she expressed concern about how bad does it need to get before we, as a global society, can take a step back and rethink what we are doing, to take radical action. She concluded by noting that we are all contributing to society, paying taxes, and we all have a say. Perhaps the only way we can take steps forward, is to first look at each other.

In closing the 2023 SDTF, **Mr. Chun Kyoo Park**, Head of Office of the UNOSD, delivered a sincere thanks for the dedication and commitment of all participants over the four-day Forum. He emphasized that the SDGs are a call to action and roadmap for a sustainable world, and that he was encouraged by the attention to detail of each participant in applying the GSDR’s framework on Entry points and Levers to prepare their own unique SDG Transformations Action Plan to inform their work back home to accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

<https://unosd.un.org/events/2023SDTF>

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## [2023] Sustainable Development Transformation Forum

Incheon City, Republic of Korea  
16 - 19 October 2023

Monday, 16 October 2023 - 9:00am to Thursday, 19 October 2023 - 5:00pm

### Documents

- CONCEPT NOTE (updated as of 9 October 2023)
- AGENDA (updated as of 14 October 2023)
- INFORMATION NOTE (updated as of 5 October 2023)
- PHOTOS
- INCHEON COMMUNIQUE (updated as of 23 October 2023)



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## Annex A: Forum Participant List

<b>2023 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum</b>					
<b>LIST OF PARTICIPANTS</b>					
<b>Country Representatives</b>					
<b>Country</b>	<b>Mr/Ms</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Ministry/Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>
Algeria	Ms.	Manel	Elayoubi	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director of Environment and Sustainable Development
Armenia	Mr.	Davit	Manukyan	Department of Multilateral Policy and Development	Head of UN and Sustainable Development Division
Azerbaijan	Mr.	Orman	Abdinov	Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan	Chief Advisor
Brunei Darussalam	Ms.	Nur Liyana	Haji Ramlee	Sustainable Development Goals Unit, Prime Minister's Office	Special Duties Officer Grade II
Burundi	Ms.	Joselyne	Kwishaka	Permanent Mission of the Republic of Burundi to the UN	Second Counselor
Burundi	Mr.	Denis	Ndagijimana	Ministry of Finance, Budget, and Planning	Director of Programming
Cambodia	Mr.	Thavrak	Tuon	Ministry of Planning Royal Government of Cambodia	Secretary of State
Cameroon	Mr.	Serge Pamphile	Mezang Akamba	Permanent Mission of Cameroon to the UN	First Counselor



Cote d'Ivoire	Ms.	Rachelle Ida	Yapo Epse Yapo	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Director of Sustainable Development Policies and Strategies
Egypt	Mr.	Omar Ahmed Abdalla	Elsheikh	Embassy of Egypt in the Republic of Korea	Charge d'affaires
Eswatini	Ms.	Nonhlanhla	Shongewe	Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	Senior Economist
Guinea	Mr.	Baba	Sylla	Embassy of Guinea in Japan	Economic Counsellor
Honduras	Mr.	Leonardo Enrique	Argueta	Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment	Project Coordinator
Honduras	H.E. Mr.	Rodolfo	Pastor Fasquelle	Embassy of Honduras in Seoul, Republic of Korea	Ambassador-designate of Honduras
Kenya	Mr.	William	Komu	National Treasury and Economic Planning, SDGs Coordination Directorate	Chief Economist
Kuwait	Ms.	Fay A J A A	Alnajadah	National Observatory for Sustainable Development and Future Foresight, General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, Kuwait	Researcher
Kyrgyz Republic	Ms.	Talaikul Mukhambetovna	Shadykanova	Ministry of Economy and Commerce	Head of the Department of Analysis and Expertise of State Programs
Lao PDR	Mr.	Alomlangsy	Rajvong	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director of the Department of International Organizations
Libya	Mr.	Yousef S I	Salah	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Counselor, Department of International Organizations
Madagascar	Mr.	Andriamiharisoa	Harinjaka Romuald	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Director-General of Sustainable Development



Madagascar	Mr.	Andriamboavonjy Dimby	Rakoto	Ministry of Economy and Finance	Director of Economic Studies and Modelling
Malawi	Mr.	Kumbukani	Ng'ambi	Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Planning and Development	Deputy Director
Malaysia	Ms.	Nik Nor Aiza	Binti Nik Abdul Aziz	Ministry of Economy	Principal Assistant Director
Malaysia	Mr.	Abd Rahim	Abd Hamid	Ministry of Economy	Director of Development Division
Maldives	Mr.	Aman	Khaleel	Senior Planning Analyst, Ministry of National Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure	Senior Planning Analyst, Ministry of National Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure
Mali	Mr.	Mamadou	Camara	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Foreign Affairs Advisor
Mauritania	Mr.	Soumare	Boukary	Permanent Mission of Mauritania to the UN	Counselor
Mongolia	Mr.	Batkhuu	Idesh	Ministry of Economy and Development	State Secretary
Myanmar	Mr.	Htun	Zaw	Ministry of Planning and Finance	Director General, Central Statistical Organization
Paraguay	Ms.	Maria Emilia	Ayala de Gambero	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay	First Secretary, Head of the Department of Climate Change, Environmental Affairs, and Risk Management
Paraguay	Ms.	Perla	Garcia Cristaldo	Embassy of Paraguay in the Republic of Korea	Charge d'affaires
Peru	Mr.	Jordy Vilayil	Vilchez Astucuri	National Center of Strategic Planning	Director of the National Directorate of Foresight and Strategic Planning



Philippines	Ms.	Janice Gascon	Utanes	National Economic Development Authority	Supervising Economic Development Specialist
Philippines	Ms.	Krishia Nathalie P.	Zabala	National Economic and Development Authority	Senior Economic Development Specialist
Samoa Islands	Ms.	Olive Justine Marrison	Vaai	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Principal Foreign Service Officer, International Relations Division
Senegal	Mr.	Boucar	Ndiaye	Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development and Ecological Transition	Director of Planning and Environmental Monitoring
Sierra Leone	Ms.	Isatu Sema Aisha	Sillah	Embassy of the Republic of Sierra Leone in Seoul	Minister Plenipotentiary
South Sudan	Ms.	Sitona Abdalla	Osman	Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation	Director General of International Cooperation
Sri Lanka	Mr.	Sugath	Yalegama	Ministry of Urban Development and Housing	Additional Secretary (Policy and Projects)
Sri Lanka	Mr.	Sattambiralalage Don	Jude Nilukshan	Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies	Director General, Department of National Budget General Treasury
Turkiye	Mr.	Osman	Altintas	Presidency of Türkiye Presidency of Strategy and Budget	Strategy and Budget Expert
Venezuela	Mr.	Jesus Emiro	Contreras	Ministry of Popular Power for Foreign Affairs of Venezuela	First Secretary
Venezuela	Ms.	Isabel Teresa	Di Carlo Quero	Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in South Korea	Minister Counsellor and Charge d'Affaires
Zimbabwe	Mr.	Simeon	Banda	Ministry of Public Service, Labour, and Social Welfare	Sustainable Development Officer





## Resource Persons, Speakers, International Organizations and the United Nations

Organization/Entity	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Title
East and North-East Asia Office, UNESCAP	Mr.	Ganbold	Baasanjav	Head
East and North-East Asia Office, UNESCAP	Ms.	Ma Fideles	Sadicon	Sustainable Development Officer
East and North-East Asia Office, UNESCAP	Ms.	Dana	Choi	Team Assistant
UN DESA	Ms.	Astra	Bonini	Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch
UN Project Office on Governance, Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government, UN DESA	Ms.	Ana	Thorlund	Governance and Public Administration Officer
Asia-Europe Foundation	Mr.	Toru	Morikawa	Executive Director
Stockholm Environment Institute	Ms.	Eva Maria Therese	Bennich	Research Fellow
Ewha Womans University	Ms.	Eunmee	Kim	President
Local Government Unit, San Carlos City, Philippines	Mr.	Arthur Alfaro	Batomalague	Supervising Environmental Management Specialist



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Food and Agriculture Organization	Mr.	Pierre	Ferrand	Agricultural Officer
ASEM SMES Econ-Innovation Center	Ms.	Hyun	Jee	International Cooperation Team Leader of the ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC)
Central European University	Mr.	Lazlo	Pinter	Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy
Asia-Europe Foundation	Ms.	Grazyna	Pulawska	Associate Director
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi	Mr.	Ambuj Daya	Sagar	Deputy Director and Professor of Policy Studies
World Meteorological Organization	Mr.	Daniela	Cuellar Vargas	Programme Officer, Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems Office
Green Climate Fund	Mr.	James	Williams	Manager, Office of Sustainability and Inclusion (OSI)
Global Green Growth Institute	Mr.	Dukwoo	Jun	Lead in Circular Economy – Community of Practice
UNOSD Consultant	Mr.	Darren	Swanson	UNOSD Consultant
UNOSD / UN DESA	Mr.	Chun Kyoo	Park	Head of Office
UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Sara	Castro de Hallgren	Sustainable Development Officer
UNOSD / UN DESA	Mr.	Simon	Gilby	Sustainable Development Officer
UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Emily	Carroll	Policy Development and Coordination Expert



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UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Chaela	Shin	Policy Development Expert
UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Ilae	Kim	Programme Management Assistant
UNOSD / UN DESA	Mr.	Huiyong	Kim	Administrative Assistant
UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Wonju	Kim	Team Assistant
UNOSD / UN DESA	Mr.	Seung Gyo	Kim	Research Assistant
UNOSD / UN DESA	Ms.	Livia	Aurelia	Research Assistant



## Annex B: Participant Insights During Training Exercise on Entry Points and Levers for SDG Transformations

Insights from Forum participants regarding how the various Levers could be applied to accelerate progress across the Entry Points in the context of their own country were shared on a virtual flipchart (using the Padlet App). These insights are summarized in the tables below for each Entry Point, showing both breadth and depth of country examples and aspirations for SDG transformation and acceleration. These participant insights illustrate that all five Levers outlined in the 2023 GSDR are relevant in the context of the different Entry Points for SDG transformation.

Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<b>Entry Point #1: Human Wellbeing &amp; Capabilities</b>	Governance and Capacity Building	A new Water and Sanitation plan is being implemented to increase infrastructure access with public and private sector financing to ensure proper water + sanitation services especially in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas.
	Economy and Finance	Main focus is to ensure the wellbeing of all people in particular the poor. Social protection programmes are a key instrument to mitigate the impact of shocks. Target near poor households to ensure that there is no downward trend towards poverty and ensure universal coverage for social protection programmes.
		Continue to mobilise the economic strategies already in place that enshrine poverty reduction and continued involvement with government, civil society and the private sector.
	Individual and collective action	Individuals and groups should work together. One cannot facilitate change alone. Government needs to work with regulation and private sector needs to support investments in health care and education. Investments are needed both in terms of quantity (coverage) and quality (i.e., making sure hospitals have the right resources, transforming education curricula). Awareness campaigns are means to change individual actions, i.e., in terms of communicating the need to send your kids to school.
At the center of all development is the wellness of the people. It is important to protect the livelihood of people: social protection for formal and informal sector and protection against price volatility. Specifically, a focus is needed on health protection and strengthening health sector (through user fees / contribution).		



	Capacity Building	<p>Objective is to change behaviour of decision makers, CSO and households. Ensure a focus on information and providing means of finance to improve investment in terms of equipment in health, sanitation, water supplies, production, and environmental protection.</p> <p>Four agencies in my country have programmes on lifelong learning targeting public and private sector employees for technical education skills development. This also includes labor market information system for skills forecasting, anticipation of gaps, and skills matching. Our country also has continuing education programmes and two agencies provide legislation for workplace wellness (occupational safety and wellness center). For vulnerable groups like single mothers, there are special programmes and valuation of in home work for stay at home parents to quantify economic output of unpaid work.</p>
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Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<p><b>Entry Point #2: Sustainable and Just Economies</b></p>	Governance	<p>A National Energy transformation roadmap was launched to diversify energy mix, focusing on job creation, win-win redistributive scenarios working with private, public and low income households. Research and development can help accelerate carbon capture utilization and storage to achieve net zero aspiration, as can strengthening frameworks for industry regulation and redistribution for this type of industry.</p>
	Economy and Finance	<p>To achieve sustainable and just economies we need private investment and international finance such as debt relief and targeted investments in energy and transport sectors primarily.</p> <p>Our country has a plan that includes public finance redistribution for development, whereby 50% of the national budget allocation must go to the six states with lowest GDP.</p>
	Individual and collective action	<p>Promote sustainable modes of production and consumption through promoting a change in the institutional framework and society culture.</p> <p>Build capacity to fight corruption through awareness raising in both government and civil society. Use of data to pinpoint corruption hotspots and take action.</p>
	Science and technology	<p>Mining companies can create chemical waste, and some of them are international. Many communities are negatively affected. There is a company specialised in neutralising the chemical waste, illustrating how science and innovation can be used in business to address with sustainability issues.</p>



Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<p><b>Entry Point #3: Food Systems &amp; Nutrition</b></p>	<p>Governance</p>	<p>To facilitate improvement of value chains.</p> <p>Create a policy framework that implements agroecology techniques and knowledge throughout the country.</p> <p>Investment in public health information.</p> <p>Increasing agricultural productivity requires fertilisers, the government should provide these.</p> <p>Government needs to invest in industry that can refine the crops/produce - storage is key.</p> <p>Governments can reduce tax on food imports, to ensure that people have access to affordable food. This to increase food security. Once domestic demand is met, it becomes possible to export.</p> <p>Government can offer information about healthy diets.</p>
	<p>Economy and finance</p>	<p>Improving access to healthy food through supporting local food collectives.</p>
	<p>Individual and collective action</p>	<p>Government and the general public need to work together to improve diets. This includes: Sensitization for population to change diet, foster recycling, improvement in transport and reduce waste; Shift from consumption to conservation; Re-organize / change the land use for production of healthier food and diet; Focus on healthier food and crops (focus on rice with lower glycemic index for instance); and Reduce energy consumption (switching off appliances).</p>
	<p>Science and technology</p>	<p>Research and development for a sectoral approach on food systems to tackle obesity and ultra processed foods consumption. This involves irrigation tech, reducing food loss, adoption of new crop varieties and precision agriculture in local production and reduce dependence on imported food. Working with development partners and private sector for sustainable change to transform food systems.</p>
		<p>increase food availability throughout the country. Focus on food production. Transportation is difficult. Research on food production can be used to assist with supporting local production. Select crops, varieties, adaptation measures, production practices, etc. to ensure that livestock and crops are grown in a resilient manner.</p>
	<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>Capacity building in SDG 17, particularly public private partnerships, to achieve sustainable food systems, and economic reform to shift from dependence on oil revenue and diversify the economy.</p>



Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<p><b>Entry Point #4: Energy</b></p>	<p>Governance</p>	<p>Government needs to invest in renewable energy systems. Need to legislate or create a beneficial environment/incentive to those contributing to the grid. Need to specifically target affordability, perhaps by putting in place entity that can regulate the cost of energy.</p>
		<p>Shift from fossil fuels to clean energy: remove government subsidies and apply tax on the fossil fuels and encourage investment in renewable energy projects.</p>
	<p>Economy and finance</p>	<p>Focus on cooking energy. Economy and finance focus on price incentives. Apply by introducing some benchmark measures for users to be incentivized to use low carbon energy, making sure a low market price.</p>
	<p>Individual and collective action</p>	<p>Energy decarbonization in the transport sector - transforming mini-buses into electricity and scaling Euro4 gas use. Also, passed a law on hybrid vehicles to encourage use nationally. Law exempts hybrid car from license plate restrictions as an incentive for consumer individual change.</p>
	<p>Science and Technology</p>	<p>Currently energy matrix is based on hydro and gas but the gas resources are depleting so there is a need to increase renewables (e.g., geothermal capacity and need for innovative solutions for providing energy to rural and remote areas). Mini power hydroelectrical generators use could be scaled up as well as continued expansion of renewables such as solar and wind. For example, benchmarking solar solutions from other countries.</p>
		<p>Geothermal has an untapped potential for the heating in the Andes region.</p>
		<p>Investment in renewable energy. Building capacity in renewable energy to transition from fossil fuels.</p>
	<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>Capacity building to trigger investment in renewable energy sources. Carbon financing needs to be monitored and need capacity for this. Capacity building needed for coordinating the many different actors in the energy system. Increase capacity building to deal with bottle necks.</p>



Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<p><b>Entry Point #5: Urban &amp; Peri-urban</b></p>	<p>Governance</p>	<p>Government responsibilities on health (vaccination, treatment, diet) and on education (improving school access).</p> <p>National climate change policy launched with 10 strategies including waste, electrical vehicles, renewable energy (e.g., for waste in last two years govt managed to reduce waste per person from 1.3kg to 1.1kg).</p>
	<p>Economy and finance</p>	<p>Investing in recycling facilities, zero waste activities and biodegradables to boost economic activity in an environmentally friendly way.</p>
	<p>Individual and collective action</p>	<p>Trend of upward urbanization, and inequalities are driving this. Changes happen at the individual level and how people interact, so it is key to influence this. People can form their own norms and lead change- behavioral change. Support can be strengthened through education, financing of activities, fostering gathering of people, etc.</p>
		<p>Single use plastics public awareness raising focused on schools. Schools plastics ban. Encouraging local food production for healthier diets</p>
		<p>Behavior change programmes. Waste management in urban populations. Infrastructure and financing needed to support the behavioral change.</p>
	<p>Science and technology</p>	<p>Advancing science and technology for sustainable urbanization (e.g., computer sciences).</p> <p>Important for fostering smart cities. Need cooperation and more investment for increased science and technology.</p>
	<p>Capacity building</p>	<p>Capacity building needed for water management, transport, etc. The lever could be applied through training in making the right priorities and need to find the programs with highest impact. Need to build capacity on how to build partnerships and collaboration. All stakeholders need to be onboard. Capacity building is also needed to identify the main challenges.</p>
		<p>Importance to focus on building the infrastructure for the workforce.</p>





Entry Point	Lever	Participant Insights
<p><b>Entry Point #6: Environment</b></p>	<p>Economy and finance</p>	<p>International resources need to be mobilised, but also at the national/local level there must be resources added. Could be allocated through the national budget, a share should be used to protecting the global commons. Local NGOs and private sector funds should also be leveraged.</p> <p>Since this is an international matter, there is a need for international regulation. But this regulation needs to be translated to national contexts and included in national plans (this will enable budgeting).</p>
	<p>Science and Technology</p>	<p>Investing in eco-schools and research and development (called knowledge for sustainability).</p> <p>In some countries livestock population can be greater than people. Private sector investment needed in the agricultural sector. This can leverage technology to better manage livestock trends, movements, etc. to support sustainable management. Technology and learning from the region is important, looking beyond the country.</p>
	<p>Capacity Building</p>	<p>Under each category will need different approaches to capacity building. Lifestyle change programme, fish forever programme, etc, are examples of teaching people sustainable practices.</p>