



2024
Sustainable
Development
Transformation
FORUM

Incheon City, Republic of Korea | 29 - 31 October 2024



Substantive Report





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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 [2024 Sustainable Development Goals Report](#) only 17% of SDG targets are on track, while nearly half show minimal or moderate progress, and progress on over one-third of the Goals has stalled or even regressed.

Furthermore, the pace of SDG progress varies significantly across country groups with low-income and vulnerable nations lagging far behind. The impacts of climate change, a growing number of conflicts, a fragile global economy, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have revealed weaknesses and hindered progress towards the Goals.

About 23 million people are living in extreme poverty, with an increase of 100 million suffering from hunger in 2022 compared to 2019 due to the spillover effects of conflict, inflationary pressures, a cost-of-living crisis for many, and supply chain disruptions among other human-induced causes. In addition, greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations hit record highs in 2022, with real-time data in 2023 indicating a continued rise further affecting the resilience of food systems, human health, and planetary health overall.¹ 2024 is also a transformative year politically, with half of the world's population undergoing an election, presenting the potential for significant changes in approaches to sustainable development and climate action for many countries.²

However, the world still has hope to rescue these ambitions by 2030, provided we swiftly accelerate our efforts. At this year's HLPF, 36 countries presented their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) with a focus on showcasing national progress towards the 2030 Agenda and in 2025, 39 countries will present.

While the annual investment gap for developing countries to achieve the SDGs stands at \$4 trillion, there is marked progress in engaging private sector financing and innovative and sustainable engines of growth in developing countries and vulnerable communities.

The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), 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 the creation,

¹ [Press release](#)

² [Live information board](#)

dissemination, and application of knowledge to advance the implementation of the SDGs in developing countries.

A flagship 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 implementing the 2030 Agenda from various sectors and offers a platform for capacity building, knowledge exchange, policy innovation, and partnerships.

Objectives and Format

As in most previous editions of the SDTF, this year's Forum followed the thread of the next High-level Political Forum (HLPF) that will be held in 2025 under the overarching theme, *'Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind'*. In this sense, this year's SDTF featured the SDGs that will go under in-depth review during the HLPF in July 2025, namely SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

Building on last year's SDTF, the Forum also focused on the [Global Sustainable Development Report](#) (GSDR) 2023 and reflected on the Summit of the Future held on 22-23 September 2024. At the Summit, Member States agreed on a [Pact for the Future, a Global Digital Compact, and a Declaration on Future Generations](#), marking the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the SDGs with high-level political guidance leading up to 2030 and beyond.

The GSDR 2023 brought together the latest scholarship on sustainable development from a wide range of sources and disciplines. It included an analysis of the current state 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, or tools and approaches that will drive transformation as suggested by 2023 GSDR (governance, economy and finance, science and technology, individual and collective action, and capacity building) guided the discussions at the SDTF.

The 2024 SDTF supported the 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 3, 5, 8, 14, and 17. The Forum also facilitated peer learning by fostering discussions on challenges and solutions and 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. In the survey conducted following the Forum, 100% of participants reported that the Forum was very relevant to their work.



Participants

The Forum's participants included policymakers at all levels, including national government officials, civil society, local communities, academia, and the private sector. Participants included 38 country representatives, 13 women and 25 men. The Forum focused on developing countries, with participation encouraged by those in special situations, particularly Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, Small Island Developing States, and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations. The list of participants is provided in Annex A.

Key Messages

The following key messages were developed as outcomes of the panel presentations, discussions and interventions, as well as the Call to Action plans submitted by participating Member States.

Emphasize Productive Capacities and Human Capital for Accelerating Sustainable Development

Effective human capital management is key to achieving sustainable development, as thoroughly examined during the training through perspectives on gender inequality, marginalised rural communities, and the challenges and opportunities presented by the demographic dividend. UNCTAD presented the [Productive Capacities Index](#), which overlooks productive capacities, defined as *“the productive resources, entrepreneurial capabilities and production linkages that together determine a country's ability to produce goods and services that will help it grow and develop.”*³ The index was presented as a crucial method to update understanding of the determinants of productivity, as it integrates human capital, natural capital, institutions, ICT and many more indicators assessing 194 economies for the period 2000-2022⁴.

Promote Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Enhance Well-being in Rural Communities

Empowering rural development through strengthening initiatives that support rural women and communities, ensuring sustainable livelihoods and enhanced well-being are foundations for local prosperity and resilience. Rural development is essential to SDG achievement and ensuring the implementation of gender-sensitive and youth-focused policies and initiatives is crucial to empower rural populations. Small cooperatives were highlighted as vital for promoting inclusion in rural communities.

Gender Inequality has a Growth Retarding Effect on Sustainable Development

Gender inequality is not only a breach of fundamental human rights but also retards the economic growth that is needed in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to break the cycle of poverty. Participants recognised the critical role of women's participation in the economy for accelerating progress on sustainable development by reviewing evidence from current economic research presented by UNU-WIDER. Achieving gender parity (SDG 5) in the labour market (SDG 8) could add \$12 trillion to global GDP by 2030, demonstrating how gender equality is both a driver and an outcome of economic growth, as highlighted in the [2024 Sustainable Development Goals Report](#).

³ Productive Capacities Index

⁴ [Productive Capacities Index information sheet](#)



This also aligned with commitments in the Declaration on Future Generations, and urged the removal of persistent barriers to gender equality in both rural and urban settings, particularly for young women, to ensure equitable progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

Empower Youth as Essential Drivers of Transformation and Ensuring Data on Youth for Economic Empowerment

The Declaration on Future Generations underscores the importance of including young voices in decision-making processes to ensure future generations can effectively implement and sustain the SDGs. This involves addressing multiple challenges, including creating an enabling environment for youth to thrive, fostering good governance, and integrating individuals Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) into society to ensure their active participation in the economy and for sustainable development today and in the future. Over one in five young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET)⁵. It also highlights the need to support women in lowering fertility rates (e.g. through delayed birth and reducing adolescent pregnancy), which can accelerate economic and social progress of rural female youth and reduce births per woman. For LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS to fully harness the demographic dividend, youth must be recognized as pivotal agents of change, especially in rural communities, drawing valuable lessons from the Asia-Pacific. Sub-Saharan African countries have the largest window of time still available to take advantage of their youthful age structures and therefore a great opportunity to capitalize on the demographic dividend⁶. Furthermore, indices based on data, like the Productive Capacities Index (PCI), served as the foundation for identifying many key issues discussed during the conference, underscoring the importance of robust data management. As a result, data was highlighted as both a major challenge and a valuable opportunity throughout the Forum.

Tailoring Methodologies to the Level of Data Availability and the Importance of Disaggregated Data

The shortage of data, or difficulties in accessing it, has long hindered development efforts in LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS. While expanding data repositories at both local and national levels is crucial, prioritizing data-limited methods should be a key short- to mid-term strategy. This approach would enable countries to implement data-driven strategies even when data availability is limited. Participants and panellists equally noted the importance of disaggregated data to better collect national to local evidence on progress and challenges related to SDG implementation. The importance of disaggregated data was highlighted in the context of gender and locality. Countries recounted their experiences in cooperating with National Statistical Offices, the United Nations system, civil society and universities at country level to strengthen their data collecting efforts, given the challenges for data collection at local level and also the financing challenges for data collection. As of December 2023, there are no Tier III indicators in

⁵ [Sustainable Development Report 2024](#)

⁶ [UN DESA Policy Brief no. 167](#)

the global indicator framework for the SDGs. However, some Member States noted persistent challenges with Tier II indicators and local level data collection.

Leverage Digital Governance and Data for Accelerated SDG Implementation

Reliable data was recognized as not only a critical enabler of SDG progress in tracking inequalities and supporting evidence-based decision-making but also in climate finance and ensuring opportunities for LDC, LLDCs and SIDS to offer high-value carbon credits to carbon markets. The [Global Digital Compact](#) emphasizes the role of digital governance in fostering transparency, inclusivity, and resilience, advocating for data-driven solutions that are sustainable and accessible to all.

Integrating Well-being Metrics and Fostering Inclusive Governance for Sustainable Development

To accelerate SDG progress and ensure a more inclusive and sustainable future, development frameworks must integrate well-being and metrics beyond GDP, focusing on human and planetary well-being. This approach aligns economic goals with sustainability and equity, while championing governance structures that are inclusive, responsive, and accountable. The [Pact for the Future](#) advocates for governance models that empower local communities, leverage digital transformation, and guarantee equitable resource access, particularly in conflict-affected or economically fragile regions. As highlighted in the [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report](#), such governance is crucial for fostering synergies, enhancing inclusiveness, and driving transformational change.

Adopt Systems Thinking and Foster Interlinkages Across SDGs

The SDGs remain severely off track and continuing business as usual will not meet the challenges faced. In order to accelerate progress on the SDGs, it is necessary to embrace a holistic approach that leverages the interconnectedness of the SDGs, as emphasized in the [Pact for the Future](#) and utilise the Levers and Entry Points suggested by the [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report](#).

Mobilize and Innovate Financing for SDG Progress

Countries still face considerable economic headwinds from the pandemic and inflation, leading to the erosion of fiscal space and worsening debt conditions. LDCs are especially impacted by the debt crisis. Since 2018 LDCs as a group have spent more on debt than on education – with 11 of them spending more on repayments than on education and health combined⁷. There is a need for more accessible, better-quality financial support and the scaling up of climate adaptation funding tailored to developing country needs. The \$4 trillion SDG funding gap should be addressed by promoting diversified and innovative financing models, as outlined in the Pact

⁷ [Least Developed Countries Report 2023](#)

for the Future. This includes mechanisms like carbon markets, private sector engagement, and Official Development Assistance (ODA), reduced transaction costs, increased investment flows, and better alignment of ODA with priorities, ensuring that financial frameworks support a just transition and prioritize vulnerable communities. The current share of ODA going to LDCs is at 22.5%⁸, the lowest in a decade. Participants also discussed the importance of SDG or climate budget tagging to improve monitoring on development financing effectiveness for the SDGs.

Advance Sustainable Fisheries and Ocean Stewardship

Healthy oceans are critical for climate resilience and food security, but SDG 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development) is still the most underfunded SDG⁹. Prioritizing sustainable management of marine resources, focusing on sustainable fishing practices, conserving underwater ecosystems, and safeguarding livelihoods tied to marine industries are all essential components of this goal. The 30 by 30 agreement was highlighted as a central milestone for marine protection. In June 2022, more than 100 Member States committed to conserve or protect at least 30 per cent of the global ocean by 2030¹⁰. Policies that protect biodiversity and support sustainable livelihoods in coastal and fishing communities were also discussed, such as sustainable aquaculture to support the survival of wild fish stocks.

Foster Global Partnerships for Inclusive and Sustainable Development

The role of global partnerships (SDG 17) to facilitate the sharing of knowledge, technology, and resources is vital for accelerated SDG progress. Collaboration across governments, private sectors, and civil society to address shared challenges and strengthen accountability can build a foundation for lasting sustainable development.

⁸ [Aid Under Pressure Report](#)

⁹ [Press release](#)

¹⁰ [UN DESA on Goal 14](#)

Presentation Summaries

Day 1

Setting the Stage – Keynote address

Speaker: Dr. Eun Mee Kim, Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea, and the Independent Group of Scientists (IGS) for the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report

Dr. Eun Mee Kim's keynote at the 2024 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum highlighted the urgent need for significant actions to meet the SDGs. Challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, and global inequality drive this urgency. The [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report](#) points out setbacks in important areas such as health, gender equality, and economic stability, while also noting the growing digital divide and lack of investment in developing countries. The [2024 Summit of the Future](#) aims to encourage global collaboration, focusing on fair governance, digital access, and sustainable innovations. Dr. Kim stressed that time is running out to achieve the 2030 Agenda and calls for immediate joint efforts and improved connections between science and policy to promote sustainable development.

III. 2024 Summit of the Future & The SDGs Report 2024

1. 2024 Summit of the Future



Source: UN (2024)

Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact, and Declaration on Future Generations

1. Adopted on September 22, 2024
2. **Calls for Multilateralism** that draws on the engagement and expertise of **governments, civil society and other key partners**
3. **The Fourth Industrial Revolution; Digital & Gender Gap; Compounded Gaps between the Global North and the Global South**
4. **Calls to Action: Climate Action; Peace & Human Rights; Reduce Inequality; Bridge the Digital Divide; Ethical Use of Technology; Universal Digital Access**



17

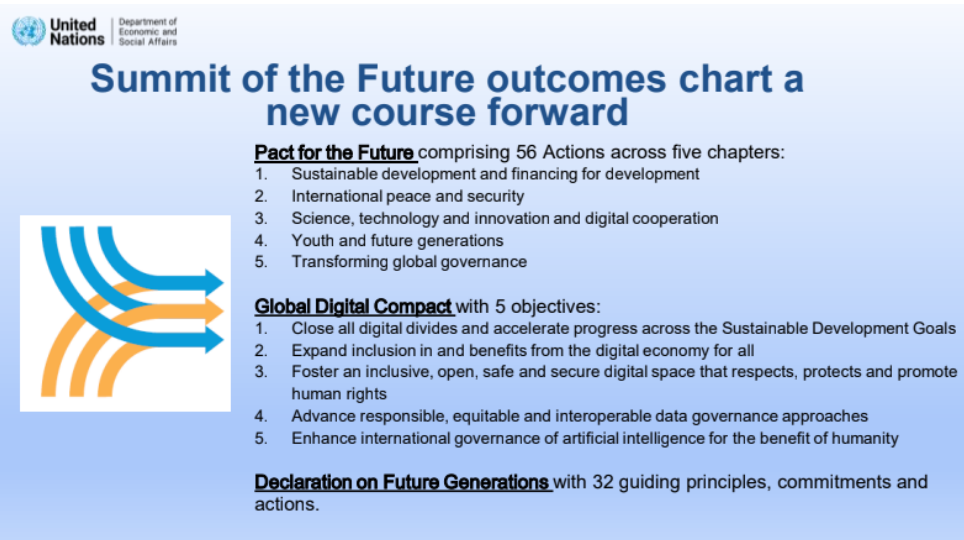
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Reflections on the Summit of the Future

Speaker: Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA

Ms. Astra Bonini's presentation at the Sustainable Transformation Forum emphasized the urgent need to reimagine multilateralism to address long-term global challenges. She discussed the 2021 report "Our Common Agenda," which warned of a world on the brink of breakdown and called for a fundamental revaluation of political, economic, social, and environmental systems to ensure fairer and more sustainable outcomes. The presentation highlighted the significance of the [SDG Summit in 2023](#) and the [Summit of the Future in 2024](#), both aimed at fostering a sustainable and equitable future amidst challenges such as debt crises, slow pandemic recovery, and climate change.

Ms. Bonini noted that progress toward the SDGs was lagging, with only 17% of targets on track as of 2024. She pointed out alarming statistics, including that by 2030, approximately 590 million people could still live in extreme poverty, and forcibly displaced persons have reached an unprecedented 120 million. Despite some areas showing improvement, such as increased access to electricity and internet connectivity, significant gaps remained, particularly for women. The presentation outlined the [Pact for the Future](#), which included 56 actions across various sectors and introduced the [Global Digital Compact](#) aimed at closing digital divides and promoting human rights in the digital space.



United Nations | Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Summit of the Future outcomes chart a new course forward

Pact for the Future comprising 56 Actions across five chapters:

1. Sustainable development and financing for development
2. International peace and security
3. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation
4. Youth and future generations
5. Transforming global governance

Global Digital Compact with 5 objectives:

1. Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals
2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all
3. Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promote human rights
4. Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches
5. Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity

Declaration on Future Generations with 32 guiding principles, commitments and actions.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Science-Policy Dialogue: How to Advance Sustainable, Inclusive, Science- and Evidence-Based Solutions

This panel discussion was moderated by **Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren**, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD. The discussants focused on the critical need for integrating scientific evidence into policymaking to address urgent global challenges such as extreme poverty, gender inequality, and climate change, especially as the deadline for achieving the SDGs approaches.

Panel discussants:

Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA

Ms. Eun Mee Kim, President, Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea, IGS for the GSDR 2019

Mr. Dovlet Dovletalyev, Head of the Division of Monitoring the Execution of Programs for the Department of Strategic and Sustainable Development, Turkmenistan

Mr. Mesuilame Maheuliuli Simote Vea, Chief Economist, Prime Minister's Office, Tonga

The discussions surrounding sustainable development policies highlighted the urgent need for integrating science into policymaking, particularly as the deadline for achieving the SDGs approaches. Participants emphasised that significant challenges, such as extreme poverty, gender inequality, and climate change, necessitated a more accelerated approach to policy implementation. It was noted that access to critical climate science data often faced barriers, with a substantial portion of this knowledge locked behind paywalls. The importance of context-specific research was also underscored, as different countries require tailored solutions to effectively address their unique challenges in advancing gender equality and economic growth.

In reflecting on past frameworks, contributors recognised the ongoing relevance of the original sustainable development report from 2019, which provided a roadmap for evidence-based policymaking. This framework aimed to make the SDGs more accessible and feasible for various countries by illustrating how interconnected systems—like food and energy—could work synergistically. The discussions further revealed that effective policy required robust data collection and analysis, particularly from the Global South, to ensure that interventions were relevant and impactful. Overall, the session fostered a collaborative atmosphere where participants shared insights on overcoming barriers to data access and emphasized the necessity of integrating local knowledge into broader policy frameworks.



Session I: 2024 Voluntary National Reviews – Reviewing progress for accelerating the SDGs

The session was moderated by **Mr. Riccardo Mesiano**, Deputy Head and Senior Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP East and Northeast Asia Sub-regional Office (ENEA) who introduced the speakers and gave a brief overview of the VNRs. This session gave countries a platform to discuss their progress towards achieving the 2030 SDGs, and needed actions to accelerate progress.

Speaker: Mr. Friedrich Soltau, Chief, Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development (OISC), UNDESA

Mr. Friedrich Soltau's presentation at the 2024 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum outlined the role of VNRs in driving progress toward the SDGs. He highlighted the importance of VNRs as a country-led process that fosters learning, partnerships, and experience-sharing. Since 2016, 366 VNRs have been conducted, helping countries integrate SDGs into national policies, enhance stakeholder engagement, and improve data systems. Moving forward, VNRs aim to deepen analysis, focus on transformative actions, and strengthen participatory approaches to address the interlinked challenges of sustainable development effectively.



Principles guiding voluntary national reviews (VNRs)



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Country Cases

Speaker: Ms. Araksya Babikyan, Third Secretary, Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia

Ms. Araksya Babikyan discussed the implementation of the SDGs in Armenia, emphasizing resilience in humanitarian action and helping integrate refugees into Armenian society. Key points include the importance of data and evidence-based information, and the role of international organizations, and local civil society in data analysis. The conversation also highlighted the impact of climate change, with severe flooding in May, and the government's response to mitigate its effects. The country aims to reduce GHG emissions by 40% compared to 1990 emissions levels by 2030 and has adopted a National Climate Plan for 2030.

DEVELOPMENT

The Armenia Transformation Strategy 2050 Mega goals 2030

Mega goal 1 Educated and capable nation and citizen SDG 4 9 5	Mega goal 4 Healthy and secure nation and citizen SDG 3 10	Mega goal 7 Mass export of manufactured production SDG 8 9 10	Mega goal 10 Mass repatriation and integration SDG 10 1 4 8 17
Mega goal 2 Protected Armenia SDG 11 16	Mega goal 5 Prosperous family with many children SDG 1 5	Mega goal 8 Clean and green Armenia SDG 7 10 15	Mega goal 11 Globally connected Armenia SDG 9 11
Mega goal 3 Efficient and accountable public governance SDG 16 17	Mega goal 6 Armenia governed by rule of law SDG 16	Mega goal 9 Rational territorial development SDG 11 2 10	Mega goal 12 Productive and responsible farming SDG 2 6 10 12
Mega goal 13 Renewable energy accessible to public SDG 7 13 15	Mega goal 14 Business attractive Armenia SDG 8 9 10 17	Mega goal 15 Knowledge base (non-material) Armenia SDG 4 8 9	Mega goal 16 Recognized, respected and hospitable Armenia SDG 4 9 16

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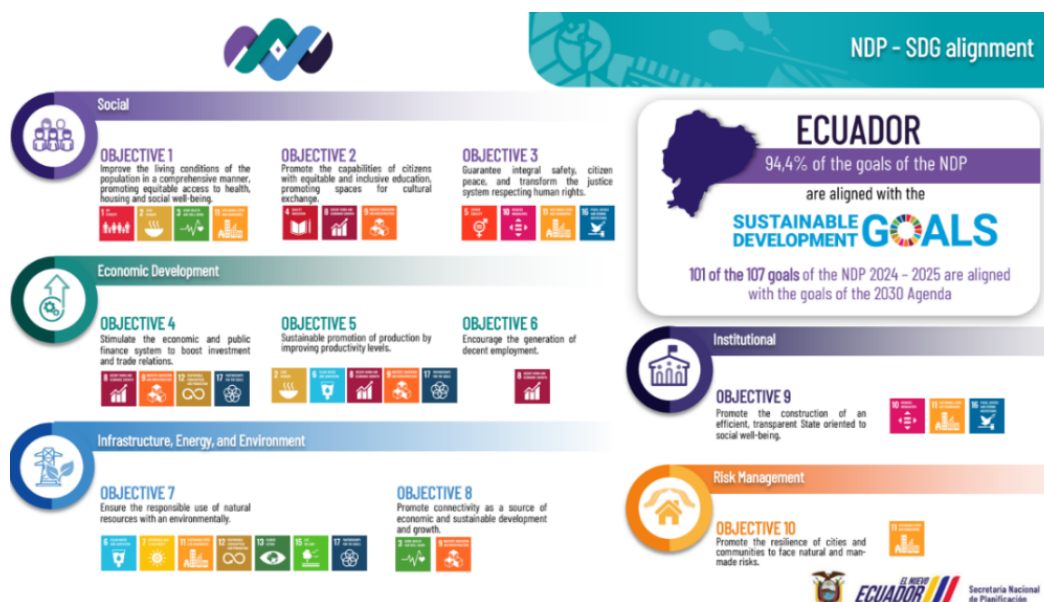


Speaker: Mr. Nabi Nabizade, Chief Advisor, Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan

Mr. Nabi Nabizade discussed Azerbaijan's efforts in implementing the SDGs through the establishment of a National Coordination Council in 2016. The council, overseen by the Ministry of Economy, includes 12 state agencies and aims to coordinate the implementation of SDG-related responsibilities. Azerbaijan has prioritized 17 SDG goals, 8 targets, and 19 indicators, with a focus on data-driven decision-making and progress monitoring. The country has submitted three VNRs highlighting its commitment to education, inclusiveness, and resilience, especially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a 4.2% GDP decrease in 2020.

Speaker: Mr. Steeven Gabriel Guaycha Cruz, Advisor, National Planning Secretariat, Ecuador

Mr. Steeven Gabriel Guaycha Cruz presented Ecuador's VNR. In 2024, Ecuador focused on improving living conditions, promoting equitable education, and ensuring citizen safety while boosting investment and creating decent jobs. The country aimed for responsible resource use and enhanced connectivity, parallel to building a transparent state dedicated to social well-being and improving resilience against risks. Notably, 94.4% of the National Development Plan (NDP) goals aligned with the 2030 Agenda, although challenges remained in data quality, institutional coordination, and inclusivity in stakeholder engagement.

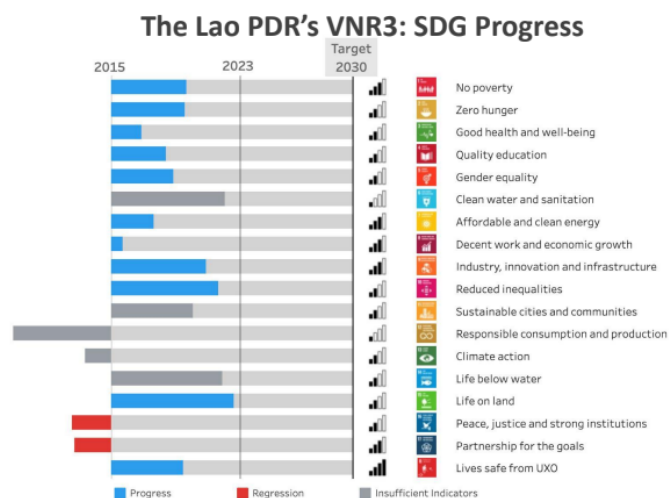


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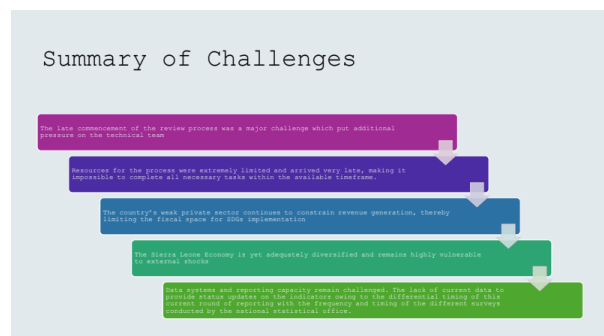
Speaker: Mr. Alomlangsy Rajvong, Director of Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR

The Lao PDR's 3rd VNR, presented by Mr. Alomlangsy Rajvong, highlights the need for capacity building, resilience, and people-centred sustainable development, focusing on 11 key SDGs such as No Poverty and Climate Actions. It emphasizes the importance of partnerships and financing while acknowledging challenges like data quality and insufficient progress in several SDGs. The presentation concludes with a strong commitment to national ownership and the necessity for targeted interventions to achieve the SDGs by 2030, addressing obstacles and prioritizing actions.



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Ms. Darlyn Lucy Muloma Brima, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Sierra Leone.





The Sierra Leone 2024 VNR, presented by Ms. Darlyn Lucy Muloma Brima, highlighted the country's ongoing efforts to track the SDGs since 2016, aligning its national development plan (MTNDP 2024-2030) with these goals. Key progress includes an increased health sector budget, a reduction in maternal mortality rates, and improved gender representation in parliament. However, challenges such as

economic vulnerabilities, limited data systems, and the impacts of climate change persist, prompting recommendations for enhanced financing frameworks, governance improvements, and better data collection.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Mr. Tawanda Chitambara , Ministry of Public Services, Labour and Social Welfare, Government of Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's third VNR, presented by Mr. Tawanda Chitambara, was developed by a diverse team through nationwide consultations, tracking progress on all 17 SDGs and including a dedicated children's section. Zimbabwe's third VNR highlights notable progress, including a significant rise in female leadership in local councils, from 13% in 2018 to 42%, driven by a 30% quota system. It also reports high levels of national identification, with 87.9% of the population holding IDs and 78.6% having birth registrations by 2022. Additionally, the country achieved agricultural self-sufficiency in wheat and maize production, alongside improvements in life expectancy and reductions in maternal mortality rates, underscoring strides in health and food security.

SUCCESS STORIES

- There is increased female leadership participation increased from 13% in 2018 reaching 42% in local councils, after the introduction of the 30% quota system.
- In 2022, 87.9% of the population had national identification registration documents, and 78.6% had birth registrations.
- The Presidential Borehole Drilling Programme targeting 35,000 community villages plus 10 000 school boreholes program is underway, to improve access to clean water and nutrition (VBUs) and overcome the impacts of climate change

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Discussion

The discussion focused on challenges and efforts in improving data accessibility and reporting for the SDGs, with specific references to Uganda's VNRs and their impact on long-term developmental objectives. Participants highlighted issues like incomplete data, the role of digital reporting, and the need to integrate contributions from private sectors and civil societies. Countries such as Sri Lanka and Canada were mentioned as examples in managing data systems and policy alignment. There was also emphasis on creating national frameworks, dashboards, and workshops to enhance data accessibility and unify reporting processes. The session concluded by addressing migration data challenges and encouraging collaboration between national and international stakeholders to achieve effective policy implementation.



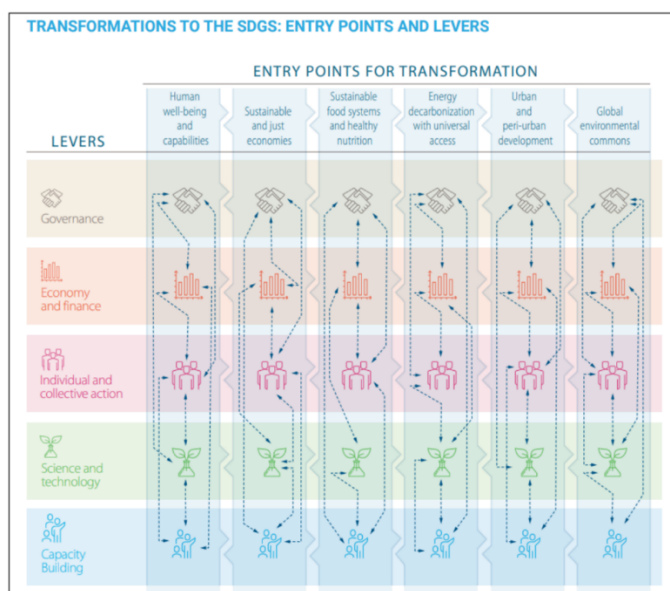
Session II: Interactive session – Operationalizing the GSDR: Training Session on Entry Points and Levers of Transformation for the SDGs

This session was moderated by **Ms. Astra Bonini**, where she introduced the Entry Points and Levers for Transformation. In this session, the participants are tasked with thinking of actions or programmes that can meet the needs of the entry points and levers.

Presentation by Ms. Nancy Shackell, Senior Research Scientist, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, IGS for the GSDR 2023

Delivered by Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA

The presentation discussed strategies for achieving sustainable development through six key entry points: human well-being, sustainable economies, food systems, energy decarbonization, urban development, and global environmental challenges. It emphasized leveraging tools like governance, finance, science and technology, and collective action to create transformative change. Specific examples were drawn from the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), illustrating how public and private investment, technological innovation, and grassroots mobilization could address systemic challenges. The discussion stressed the importance of integrating these approaches, acknowledging trade-offs, and tailoring strategies to national contexts for effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda goals.



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)



Day 2

Session III: Enabling Engines of Sustainable Growth

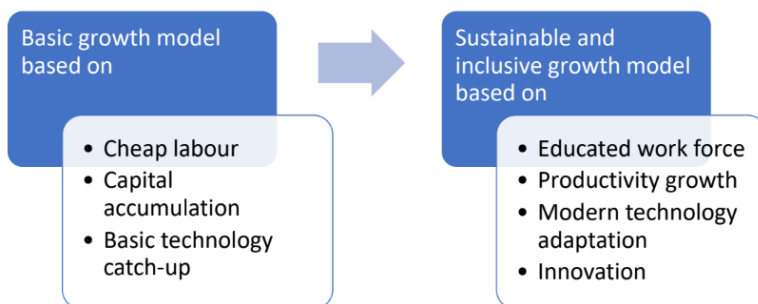
Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren moderated the third session of the forum. She introduced the speakers of this session, where they highlighted development challenges and opportunities for middle-income countries (MICs) and least-developed countries (LDCs) in achieving sustainable growth and ensure effective planning for the SDGs.

Speaker: Ms. Cornelia Kaldewei, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, EAPD, UN DESA (virtual)

The presentation by Ms. Cornelia Kaldewei focused on the development challenges and opportunities for middle-income countries (MICs). It highlighted the diversity within MICs in terms of income levels, human development, and vulnerability to external shocks. Despite some progress, many MICs face structural challenges that hinder their transition to high-income status, such as limited fiscal space, high debt burdens, and external economic pressures. To achieve sustainable growth, these countries need to shift from basic growth models relying on cheap labour and capital accumulation to more advanced models emphasizing education, innovation, and modern technology. Enhanced international support and cooperation, along with multidimensional metrics like the [Multidimensional Vulnerability Index \(MVI\)](#), are recommended to better address their unique needs.

What is holding back sustained and sustainable growth?

- **Difficulty switching growth models:**



See also *World Development Report 2024: The Middle-Income Trap*.

- **Need for infrastructure (physical and digital), education, policies, institutions**



Speaker: Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Least Developed Countries Section, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Stefan Csordas' presentation at the 2024 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum addresses the critical challenges faced by least-developed countries (LDCs) which, despite accounting for 14% of the global population, they account for 34% of the world's undernourished, over 50% of the extreme poor, 71% of those without access to electricity, only 1.4% of global GDP, and just 1.1% of global exports. LDCs are highly vulnerable to climate change, commodity dependence, and unsustainable debt, with many spending more on debt interest than health. To build resilience, the focus must be on closing infrastructure gaps, diversifying economies, and enhancing productive capacities through green structural transformation and tailored international financial support. Tools like [UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index](#) are vital for benchmarking progress and shaping policies to address vulnerabilities.

➤ From vulnerability to resilience



Crisis-resilient development finance

- ▶ International financial architecture tailored to LDCs' needs
- ▶ Lasting solution to the debt crisis
- ▶ Support for climate adaptation



Green structural transformation

- ▶ Economic diversification
- ▶ Improve productivity and competitiveness



Productive capacities

- ▶ Close infrastructure gaps
- ▶ Support domestic value addition and productive linkages
- ▶ Boost employment creation

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Discussion

The discussion highlighted the importance of considering all production factors, including human capital and technology, to drive growth, with speakers addressing challenges such as graduating from LDC status amid global economic uncertainty and external shocks. Examples of successful transitions were shared, including South Korea's technological integration and Ethiopia's use of natural resources and technology to industrialize. The need for countries to prepare for crises, with the PCI as a tool for assessing vulnerabilities, was emphasized. Participants underscored the role of capacity building, financial resources, and external support in facilitating sustainable development and informed policymaking.



Session IV: From Rural Livelihoods to Rural Wellbeing: Empowering Rural Women and Communities Towards Prosperity

The fourth session of the forum was moderated by **Mr. Simon Gilby**, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD. He introduced the speakers and briefly discussed the importance of SDG 5 and how gender equality can boost economic growth. The speakers discussed how can gender equality help economic transformation, and how the slow progress of SDG 5 negatively impacts economic growth.

Speaker: Mr. Albert Motivans, Head, Data and Insights, Equal Measures 2030

Mr. Albert Motivans discussed tracking progress on gender equality across the SDGs. The discussion focused on measuring and monitoring gender equality, emphasising the importance of women's contributions to economic transformation. An assessment revealed that only 68% of SDG 5 indicators are reported, with significant data gaps, particularly in time use for care. The [SDG Gender Index](#), aligned with SDGs, uses a wide range of indicators, including legal frameworks and economic factors. Despite progress in areas like technology and women's representation in parliaments, overall gender equality progress has slowed, with some countries backsliding since 2019. The conversation highlighted the need for better data and legal frameworks to address gender inequality effectively.

Tracking progress on gender equality:
the state of SDG gender data

EQUAL
MEASURES
2030

Lack of progress on gender risks achieving the entire 2030 Agenda...

- Recent assessments suggest that **nearly three-quarters (74%)** of the SDG targets are directly or significantly reliant on gender equality.

...yet, the data for official SDG indicators are conspicuously absent

- No country reported data for the 52 gender-specific indicators across SDGs. On average countries reported **29 of 52 indicators, or 56%** in March 2024
- For SDG 5, the global average **was 12 of 18 indicators, or 68%**, and the indicators in SDG 5 with weakest coverage were 5.a.1 (24%), 5.a.2 (35%) and 5.6.1 (35%)
- The limited intersectional data hinders efforts to leave no women or girl behind: e.g., only 15% of countries had data on indicator 5.4.1 on rural women aged 65+ years

See: <https://equal2030.medium.com/is-gender-equality-critical-to-the-success-of-the-sustainable-development-goals-cb0a5bd2de4f>

Source: UN-Women, 2024.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Mr. Wycliffe Alwago, PhD Fellow, UNU-WIDER

Mr. Wycliffe Alwago presented his study on the effects of gender inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa. The study investigates the interconnection between gender inequality, occupational segregation, and economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), highlighting that gender inequality has a detrimental effect on economic growth from 2000 to 2020. It emphasises the



importance of macroeconomic policies and trade openness for regional development while noting the adverse twin-deficit effects that impede growth. Utilising data from the World Bank and the UN for 20 SSA countries, the research reveals that occupational segregation can have both positive and negative impacts on economic outcomes, underscoring the need for gender mainstreaming in economic strategies.

Discussions



- 1) **Twin-deficit hypothesis:**
 - ✓ These reveal that government expenditures (social consumption expenditure) and tax policies have growth retarding effects in SSA countries.
 - ✓ The constant fiscal deficits recorded by SSA countries make the region resort to borrowing to finance the budget deficits in the delivery of public goods and services through public expenditure.
 - ✓ This in the long-run results in high debt service-to-GDP ratio (above the threshold) which generates negative impacts on economic growth
 - ✓ SSA countries are net importers (i.e., exports raw agricultural products and unfinished goods) hence, experiencing BOP deficits.
- 2) **Significant negative indirect effect of gender inequality.**
 - ✓ **Budgetary restrictions** sparks a wave of austerity measures that limit social spending, increasing the amount of unpaid care and domestic work performed by women in the informal economy; the share of women in agriculture and service sector.
- 3). Insignificant direct effect of gender inequality
 - ✓ Policy responses and mitigation strategies in SSA
- 4). Occupational segregation effects ($\beta = 0.26, p < 0.05$).
 - ✓ Positive effects- skills specialization and efficiency; market diversification and flexibility
 - ✓ Negative indirect effect- Income inequality and consumer demand

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Ms. Rajvi Joshipura, Senior Coordinator, Self-Employed Women Association (SEWA)

Dr. Joshipura, Senior Coordinator of the Self-Employed Women's Association of India (SEWA), discussed SEWA's efforts to empower rural women through various initiatives. Established in 1972, SEWA addresses challenges such as lack of voice, economic inequality, and limited access to technology. Key interventions include the Ruti Multi-Create company, which supports small farmers, and Kamla Cafe, which promotes nutritional security. SEWA also focuses on health, with a data-driven healthcare model and climate parametric insurance. The organization emphasizes preventive care, early linkage to care, and holistic wellness. Recent research shows the need for inclusive policies to protect informal sector workers.

Country Cases

Speaker: Ms. Abiodun Essiet, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Community Engagement, Nigeria

Ms. Abiodun Essiet discussed why empowering rural women in Nigeria is essential for community development, as they face significant challenges including limited access to education, high rates of domestic violence, child marriage, inadequate healthcare, and malnutrition. Key issues include the lack of vocational training, restricted access to land and

RE-STRATEGIZING TO EMPOWER RURAL WOMEN

- **Strengthening Healthcare Access:** Provision of mobile clinics, training for community health workers, and provision of infrastructures.
- **Promoting Gender Equality:** Awareness programs and leadership development targeted at rural women.
- **Policy Reforms:** Strict enactment of policies that support gender equality, access to quality and affordable health services, quality education, basic amenities, and economic access. Policies and interventions should aim to enhance capabilities by providing equitable access to these things.
- **Strengthen Public-Private Partnerships:** Fund projects for health, education, and empowerment.
- **Community-Led Development:** Ensure rural women's voices are included in decision-making.
- **Scaling Digital Literacy and Connectivity:** Improve rural women's access to digital resources.

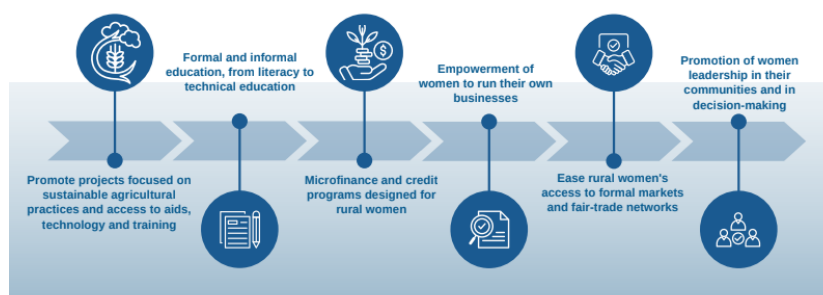
financial resources, and poor menstrual hygiene management, which hinder women's economic contributions and well-being. Nigeria's efforts to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through policies, financial support programmes, and legislative frameworks aim to address these issues and enhance the overall prosperity of rural communities.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Mr. Hugo Allan Garcia Monterrosa, Undersecretary for Strategic Development Analysis, Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency, Guatemala

Mr. Hugo Allan Garcia Monterrosa discussed significant challenges faced by women in Guatemala, where 56% of the population lives in poverty, and 16.2% in extreme poverty, with women's employment rates at only 10.7% in outer urban areas and 8.2% in metropolitan areas. Key issues include gender violence, economic inequality, and limited access to education, with 4 out of 10 rural Mayan women being illiterate. Government initiatives aim to address these challenges through technical assistance for rural women, the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, and legal reforms to protect women's rights, while 87.2% of unpaid activities are performed by women, underscoring the need for greater economic autonomy and political participation.

Proposed Solutions FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Session V: Towards Sustainable Stewardship: Sustainable Fishing, Livelihoods and Life Under Water

This session was moderated by **Mr. Simon Gilby**. He introduced the speakers and briefly explained the current status of ocean sustainability and work being undertaken globally. The session highlighted the intertwined goals of SDG 8 and 14. Speakers Ms. Nancy Shackell and Ms. Adrienne Egger emphasize global commitments such as [30 by 30](#) (putting 30 per cent of the planet and 30 per cent of degraded ecosystems under protection by 2030) and the importance of science-based management to address overfishing, climate change, and marine ecosystem restoration.

Speaker: Ms. Nancy Shackell, Senior Research Scientist, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, IGS for GSDR 2023

Dr. Nancy Shackell's presentation emphasized the intertwined nature of SDGs 8 and 14, focusing on sustainable fishing and ocean stewardship. She highlighted the ocean's critical state due to overfishing, pollution, and climate change, which threaten global fish stocks and biodiversity. Recent global agreements, including the High Seas Treaty and initiatives like ["30 by 30" commitment](#), which is also a [Global Biodiversity Framework](#) commitment for countries to achieve by 2030, shows promise in expanding marine protection. These efforts, driven by partnerships with indigenous communities, underscore the need for robust national pledges, research, and capacity-building to support conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

- Multilateral agreements are dependent upon national pledges,
- National pledges depend on capacity and research



Balaras, Constantinos & Droutsa, Popi & Dascalaki, Elena & Kontogiannidis, Simon & Moro, Andrea & Bazzan, Elena. (2020). A transnational multicriteria assessment method and tool for sustainability rating of the built environment. IOP Conference Series Earth and Environmental Science. 410. 012068. 10.1088/1755-1315/410/1/012068.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

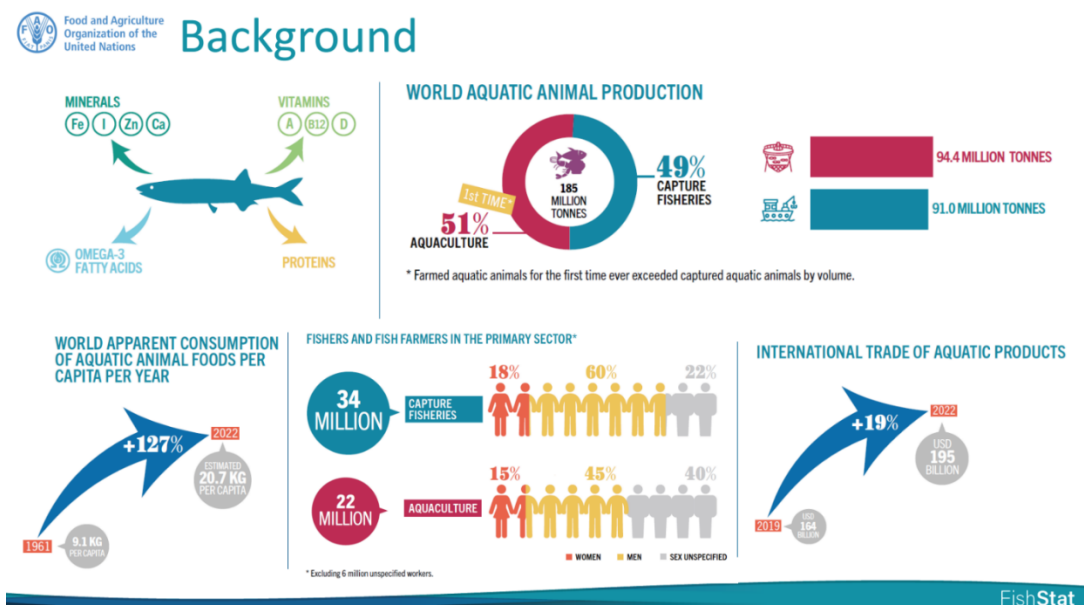
FishStat FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics

Speaker: Ms. Adrienne Egger, Fishery Officer, FAO

The presentation by Ms. Adrienne Egger focused on the importance of oceans and marine resources, which provide food, employment, climate regulation, and biodiversity. Key challenges discussed include climate change, pollution, habitat destruction, and unsustainable fishing practices, which are all threatening marine ecosystems. The presentation emphasized SDG 14, Life Below Water, which aims to address overfishing, illegal fishing, and destructive fishing practices by implementing science-based management to restore fish stocks and enhance sustainable fishing practices. Climate change impacts on fish distribution and productivity, especially affecting tropical and small island fisheries were also highlighted.

Discussion

Participants enquired about the climate change scenario and policy recommendations for achieving [Blue Transformation](#) goals. Ms. Egger clarified that the scenario is based on medium emission assumptions, emphasizing the importance of sustainable aquaculture development and effective fisheries management to address climate impacts and support sustainable ocean resource use.



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Session VI: Financing a Just Transition – Accelerating Investments for SDG Progress

This session was moderated by **Stefan Csordas**, Economic Affairs Officer in the Least Developed Countries Section of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Following Mr. Csordas delivering an introductory presentation the session highlighted the need for diverse financing sources: public, private, and concessionary and proposed solutions such as increasing liquidity, tailoring finance to country needs, and improving fund access to support SDGs.

As session moderator, **Stefan Csordas**, Economic Affairs Officer in the Least Developed Countries Section of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), opened the session with an introductory presentation. He emphasized the fiscal challenges faced by Least Developed Countries (LDCs), including worsening fiscal balances, rising debt burdens, and a mismatch between financing needs and resources.

▶ Improvements along three dimensions needed



Quantity

- ▶ IFIs to raise funds in capital markets and increase liquidity
- ▶ ODA at targets would have generated an extra \$35 billion to \$63 billion for LDCs in 2021



Quality

- ▶ Scale up adaptation finance
- ▶ Delivery through low-cost instruments



Access

- ▶ Adapt international financial architecture to LDCs' needs
- ▶ Simplify access across fragmented funds
- ▶ Reduce transaction costs

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

GGGI's Approaches on Climate Finance

Speaker: Mr. Jaehyuk Choi, Director for Financial Collaboration, Outreach, and Management, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Mr. Jaehyuk Choi from GGGI discussed climate finance, highlighting the delayed achievement of the \$100 billion/year goal set in 2009, with recent public and private climate finance increases. It was supposed to be achieved by 2020 but was delayed and later achieved in 2022. He outlined GGGI's climate finance approaches and programmatic solutions, which focus on

sustainable urban development, renewable energy, green industries, and enhancing policy frameworks for green growth. GGGI supports sustainable infrastructure and climate resilience efforts, especially in cities, through innovative green finance and infrastructure solutions.

GGGI's Thematic Bond Highlights

GGGI has assisted the issuance of Selected Green, Social, Sustainability, and Sustainability-Linked Bond exceeding US\$ 5 billion



Selected Green, Social, Sustainability, and Sustainability-Linked Bonds experience

Nov 2021 US\$3.2bn  Sustainable Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Nov 2021 US\$1bn  Social Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Oct 2021 US\$385mn  Sustainability Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Nov 2022 US\$150mn  Green Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Mar 2023 US\$200mn  Resilience Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Jul 2022 US\$75mn  Green Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent	Feb 2022 US\$300mn  Green Bond Sustainability Structuring Agent
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Peru

GGGI delivered technical assistance to the Government of Peru to develop the capacity and systems to issue the country's first sovereign Sustainable Bond, leading to multiple issuances for USD 3.2bn and EUR 1bn.

Mexico

GGGI's technical assistance to Nacional Financiera (NAFIN) led to the bank's first Sustainable Bond issuance for approx. US\$ 370 million, first ESG bond with digital focus in Mexico.

Vietnam

GGGI is implementing the Viet Nam Green Bond Readiness Program funded by the Government of Luxembourg to support development of the Green Bond Market.

Africa

GGGI is in early talks with Member countries in Africa, particularly Rwanda, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Uganda who have shown keen interest for support in Green and Sustainability Bonds.

Donors & Funding Partners



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren, Director, Department of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, Green Climate Fund

Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren discussed various financial instruments for climate finance, including green bonds, debt-for-nature swaps, and credit guarantees. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) highlighted its role in providing climate finance, focusing on adaptation and mitigation in developing countries. The GCF's second replenishment reached \$13 billion, aiming for \$3-4 billion annually. The SDG financing gap was estimated at \$1 trillion, with specific needs for mitigation and adaptation. The GCF's leveraging power was emphasized, with a \$60 billion portfolio from \$16 billion in direct funding. The meeting underscored the need for increased climate finance to meet global challenges and the importance of international frameworks like COP29.

Discussion

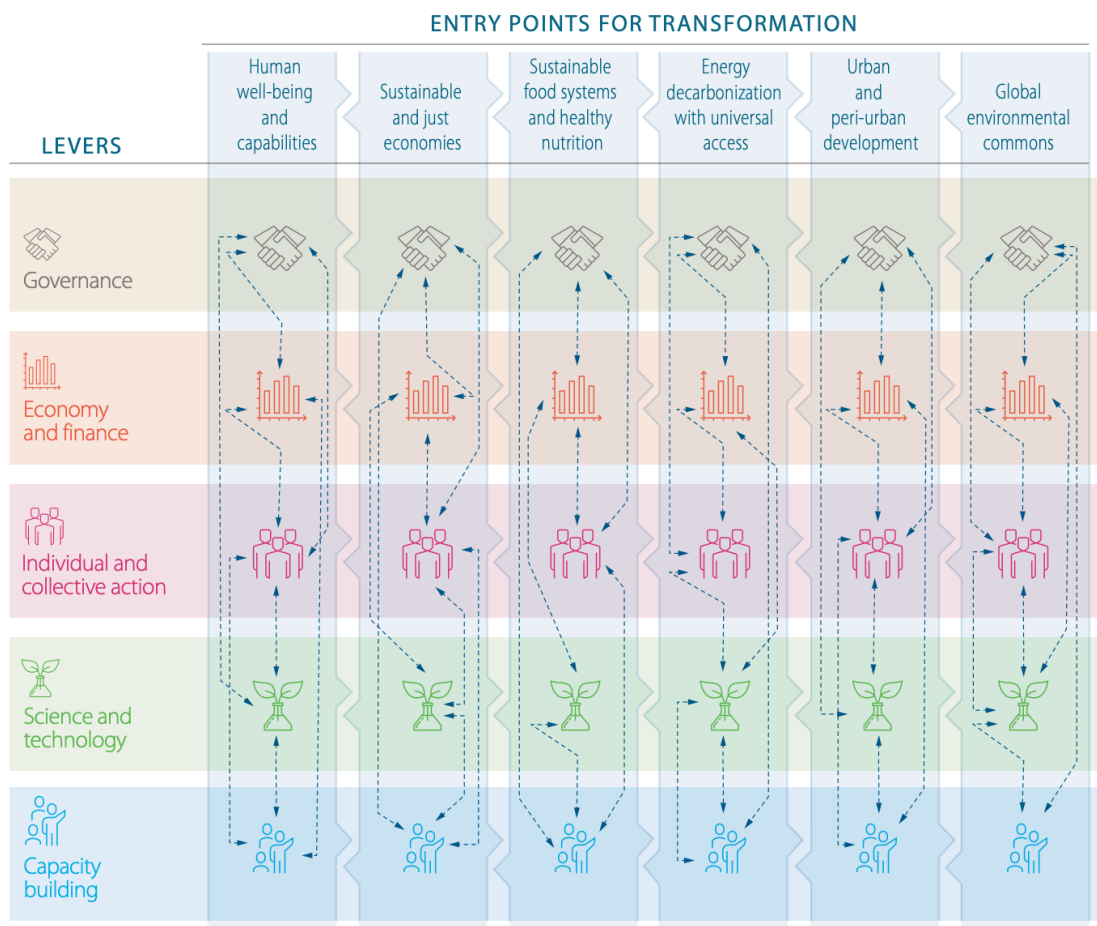
The session discussed government responsibilities in meeting private finance and resource protection demands, emphasizing the need for sustainable financing solutions, particularly in Africa. Key issues included the high interest rates on loans, the conditionality of grants, and the need for a maximum interest rate cap. The \$4 trillion financing gap post-COVID-19 was debated, with concerns about the effectiveness of pledges and the need for international levies.

The African Government Bank's role in increasing local financial institution financing was highlighted. The importance of technology and knowledge transfer for climate action was also stressed, with Africa's low global patent share (0.05%) underscoring the need for innovation support.

Interactive Session: Call to Action Plan

Mr. Simon Gilby facilitated an interactive exercise designed to foster collaboration and dialogue among participants from various countries. The activity began with participants selecting cards that represented different levers and entry points for sustainable transformation, as illustrated in the framework. These cards were used as a starting point to discuss their nation's efforts in addressing the SDGs.

TRANSFORMATIONS TO THE SDGS: ENTRY POINTS AND LEVERS





Participants, reflecting on the discussions, the presentations and their own country experiences, started to populate the table on the first page of the exercise with ideas of how the levers and entry points related to their country context.

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						

Day 3

Session VII: Fuelling Future Green Growth - Competing Crises, the demographic dividend and decent jobs

The panel discussion explored future trends, discussing the end of the demographic dividend in the Asia-Pacific region and how African countries and other countries experiencing a demographic dividend could ensure that the opportunity was fully leveraged. The session opened with a presentation from the moderator, **Mr. Simon Gilby**, giving a global overview. Following this, panel discussants were invited to give brief remarks before an open discussion between the discussants and participants.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Panel discussants

Ms. Nadeeka Sudarshani Amarasinghe, Sustainable Development Council and Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilisation and National Policies, Sri Lanka.

Mr. Wycliffe Alwago, PhD Fellow at UNU-WIDER.

Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Least Developed Countries Section, UNCTAD

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Ms. Adrienne Egger, Fishery Officer at FAO.

Mr. Albert Motivans, Head of Data and Insights at Equal Measures 2030.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

The session explored key challenges in sustainable development, beginning with the economic impact of youth migration. It was observed that in Sri Lanka, 4.2 million citizens work abroad, prompting Ms. Amarasinghe to stress the importance of employment programmes to sustain growth as the population peaks. Similarly, it was noted that Africa focuses on leveraging its demographic dividend by improving education systems and institutional frameworks, as highlighted by Mr. Alwago.

Attention then shifted to gender disparities in the energy sector. It was stated that despite higher education levels, women remain underrepresented in renewable energy due to workplace barriers. Mr. Alwago emphasized the need for policies to address these issues and foster inclusivity. On sustainable fisheries, Ms. Egger highlighted the critical role of accurate data in managing resources effectively, while acknowledging the challenges of implementation.

Finally, Mr. Motivans emphasized the importance of credible carbon markets with higher credit prices to drive meaningful climate action, noting their potential to incentivize low-carbon

investments and support global mitigation efforts. The session concluded with a focus on targeted strategies, such as vocational training and agricultural investment, to integrate youth into the economy, particularly in countries like Malawi.

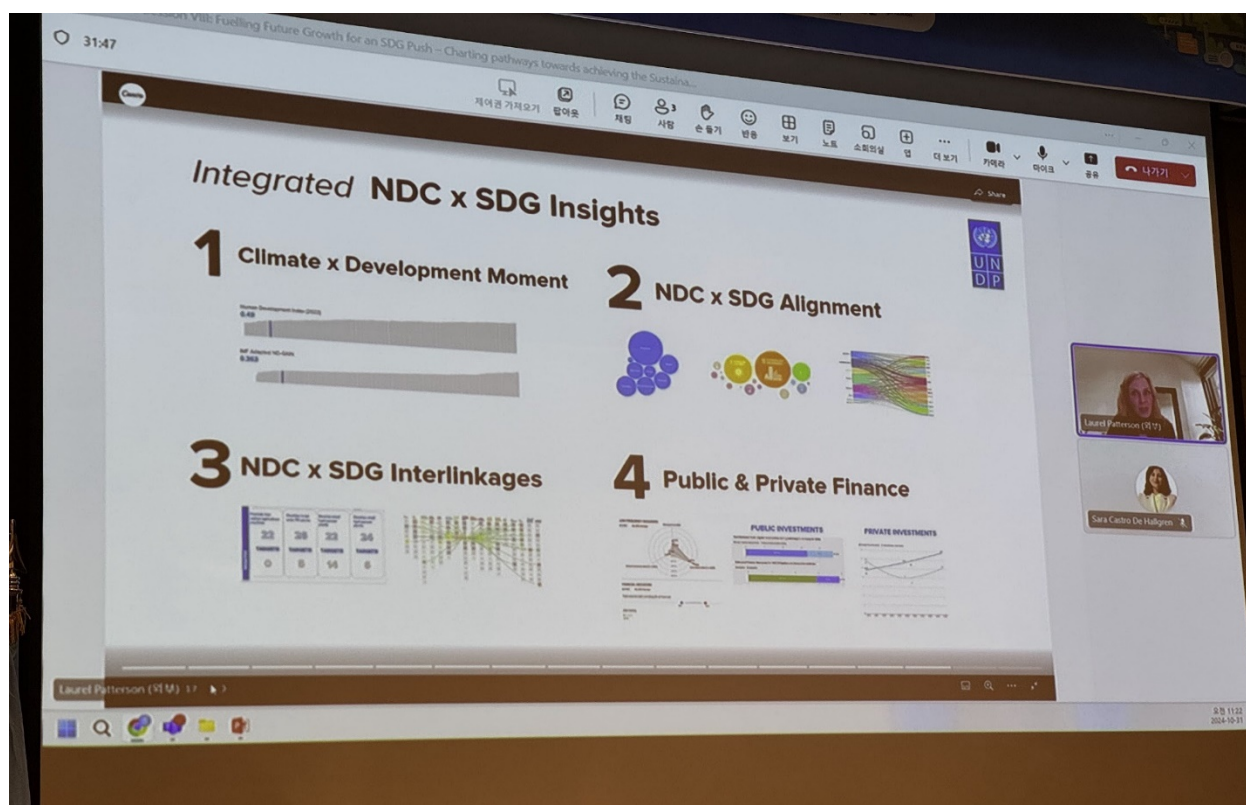


Session VIII: Fuelling Future Growth for an SDG Push – Charting Pathways towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Moderated by **Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren**, the session underscored the significance of practical frameworks such as the [SDG Push](#) model, which prioritizes investments in social protection, digital transformation, and green transitions. Ms. Castro de Hallgren introduced the speakers and emphasized the critical role of evidence-based decision-making, strategic action plans, and collaborative efforts to address the pressing global and national challenges in achieving the SDGs.

Speaker: Ms. Laurel Patterson, Head, Sustainable Development Goal Integration, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Ms. Laurel Patterson's presentation focused on the impact of COVID-19 on the SDGs and the development of a data-driven approach to anticipate and respond to crises. The [SDG Push](#) model, based on 48 parameters, was introduced, highlighting the importance of investments in social protection, digital transformation, and green transition. The model, available as open-source, aims to help countries make better decisions by analysing national priorities and interlinkages between SDGs. Dominican Republic's experience with the SDG Push was shared, showing a 36% on-track rate and emphasising the need for public-private collaboration and targeted policies.



Country Cases

Speakers: Mr. Omar Herrera, Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, Dominican Republic

Mr. Omar Herrera's presentation highlighted the Dominican Republic's strategic focus on sustainable development and the [SDG Push](#) to accelerate progress. Economic growth is



expected to reduce poverty, though challenges like regional inequality, youth inclusion, and gender disparities remain. Key targets, such as reducing non-communicable diseases and boosting secondary education and technical skills, were emphasised to support youth and economic integration. Nearly 300 indicators will be integrated into the national development plan, supported by over 30 studies and hundreds of experts. However, global SDG performance data reveals that fewer than 25% of countries have consistent tracking since 2015, underscoring the need for strong statistical systems and international cooperation. Reliable data is essential for evidence-based planning, and the Dominican Republic is working to enhance data capabilities to ensure effective policy-making and SDG alignment.

SDG PRIORITIES

Dominican Republic national priorities are generated using machine learning to reveal the most prominent SDGs referenced in national policy documents. This analysis uses a custom-built model for SDG classification. It considers 100k+ terms, including phrases and expressions.



- Key documents for analysis:
1. PNPS-Pluriannual National Plan of the Public Sector
 2. National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change PNACC 2015- 2030
 3. Digital Agenda 2030
 4. Results Oriented Budget Program (PPOR) for Educational Quality
 5. Results Oriented Budget Program (PPOR) to Reduce mortality from traffic Accident
 6. PPOR to increase Employment
 7. PPOR to improve conditions of life of the Rural Territories
 8. PPOR for Technical Vocational training and Labor Insertion
 9. PPOR to Health in School
 10. PPOR – Reduction of Crimes and Offenses that affect Public Safety
- Priorities in detail:
https://data.un.org/sdg-push-diagnostic/DOM/current_priorities

SDG INTERLINKAGES

SDG Interlinkages reveal how actions directed towards one SDG can impact others. Uncovering and understanding these interactions can help Dominican Republic to achieve the 2030 Agenda and navigate trade-offs.

Based on a global framework for interlinkages
 Dominican Republic's SDG progress is color coded at the target level.

Building from national priorities, the following pathways reflect policy investments with the most potential to accelerate the SDGs for Dominican Republic:

- Target 3.4: Reduce mortality from non-communicable diseases and promote mental health
- Target 4.4: Increase the number of people with relevant skills for financial success
- Target 9.2: Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization
- Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related disasters
- Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
- Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions

The analysis of trends in the fulfillment of the goals facilitates the identification of progress and challenges in certain SDGs integrated by areas. Considering the targets for which information has been obtained, the country records 36.0% of the 100 targets in the analysis in the "On track" category, 26% "For Review" and 38.0% "Off track".

It also allows us to verify which of the spheres requires an acceleration strategy due to delays in terms of achievements. The evaluation of the interlinkages between goals can become an instrument to guide more accurate decisions based on an evaluation of the goals with the greatest positive effects and that can more effectively drive other goals, generating greater cost-effectiveness of the results. For the DR, the Partnership and Planet spheres show percentages of 50.0% and 54.2% respectively, while the People (74.2%), Peace (66.7%) and Prosperity (59.3%) spheres show high compliance.

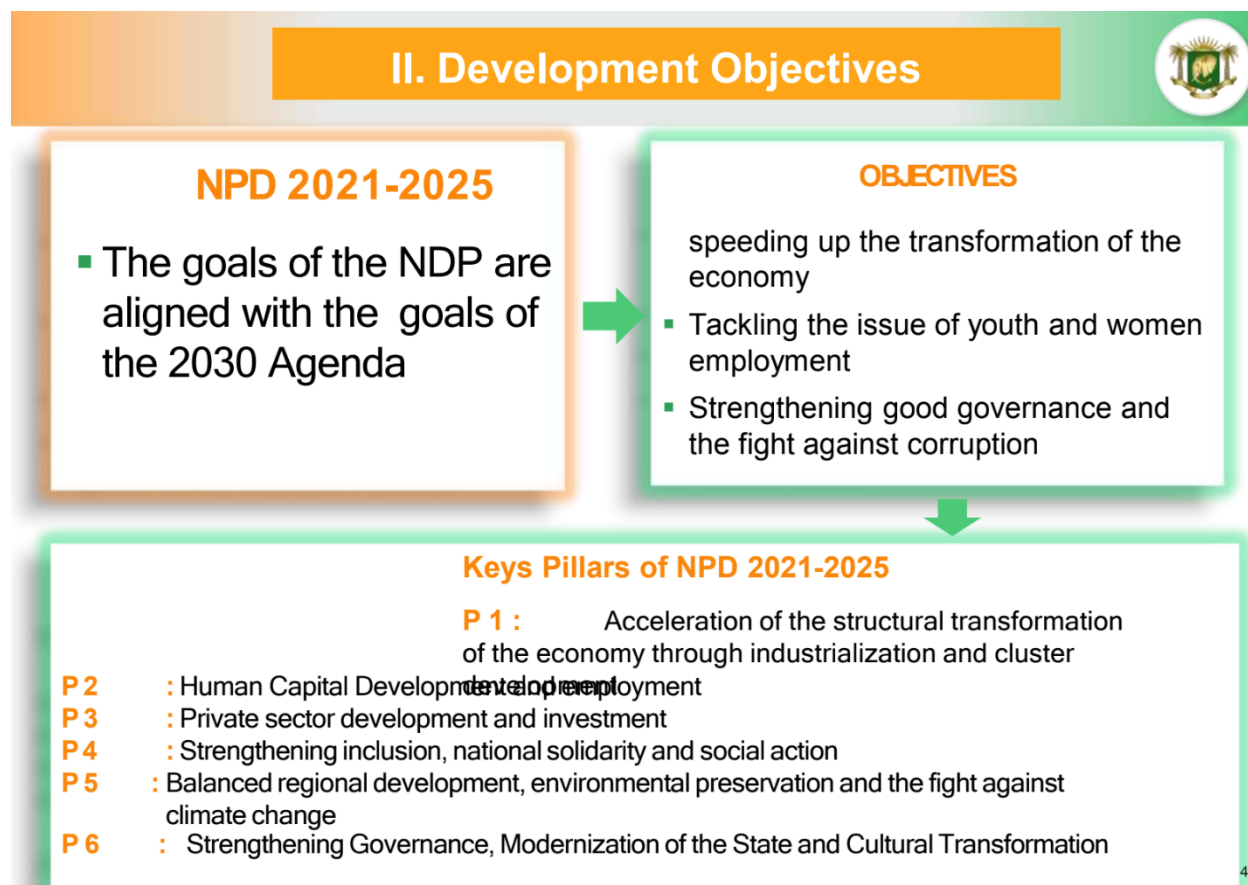
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Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

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

Dr. Rachelle Yapo's presentation was on Côte d'Ivoire's sustainable development strategy aligned with the 2030 Agenda, underscoring economic resilience, human development, and poverty reduction. The National Development Plan for 2021-2025 focuses on accelerating economic transformation through inclusive industrialisation, innovation, and infrastructure enhancement. Key targets include a 40% emissions reduction and achieving 45% renewable energy by 2030 through initiatives such as solar power plants. The plan emphasises equitable access to education, quality vocational training, and support for self-employment and

entrepreneurship to ensure broad economic participation. Governance improvements are central, with efforts to strengthen democratic institutions, promote transparency, and create effective innovation systems. These combined strategies aim to build a resilient, inclusive economy that supports sustainable growth and social progress.

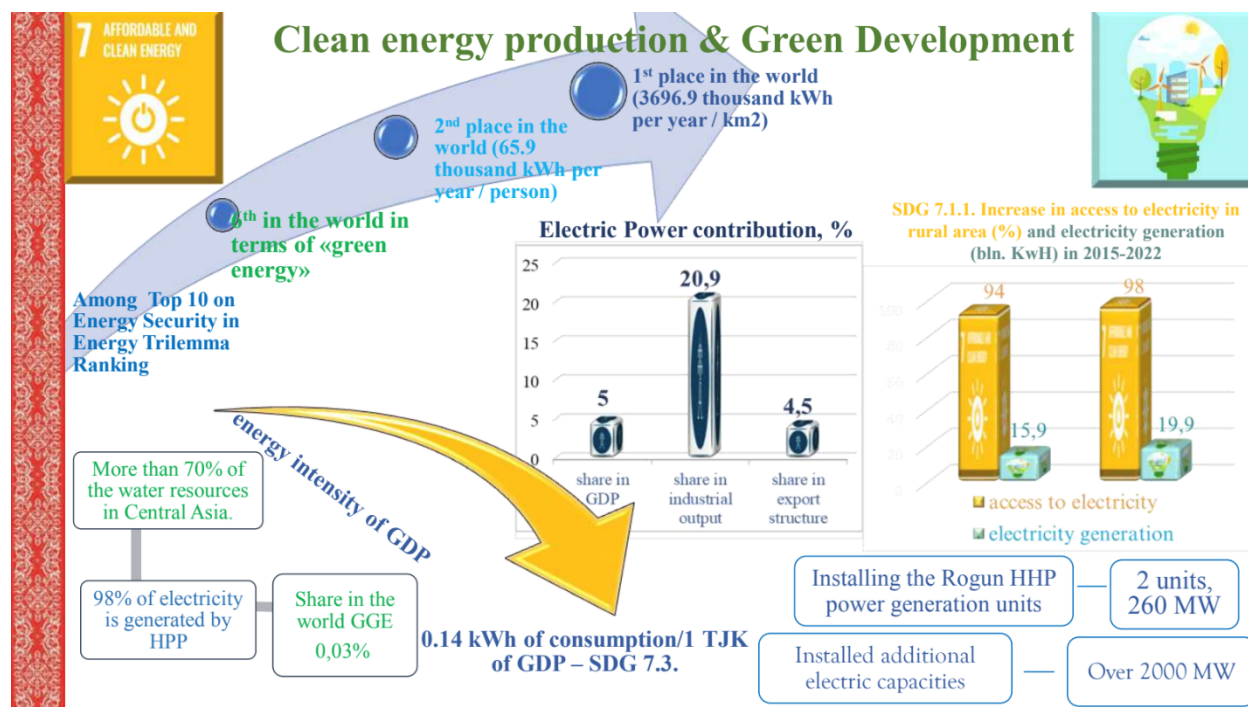


Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Dr. Mahvash Majonova Tajikistan Coordinator for SDG 3, Secretariat for the National Development Council under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan

In Dr. Mahvash Majonova's presentation, Tajikistan has made significant strides in sustainable development, achieving an average success rate of 69% across 17 SDGs, with particularly high scores in SDGs 1, 3, 7, and 12. The country's economic growth averaged 7.3% annually past 5 years, boosting GDP per capita by 1.5 times. Infrastructure improvements include 2,400 km of roads, 336 bridges, and expanded railway networks, while health outcomes have improved, with maternal mortality reduced by 70% and 79% immunisation coverage. Tajikistan is also committed to green energy, with 98% of electricity generated from hydropower, placing it among the top global performers in energy security. Additionally, a National SDGs Tracker Platform has

been developed to monitor progress across 127 indicators, highlighting the importance of data for strategic planning and policy. The government is focused on promoting clean energy, sustainable agriculture, and inclusive growth, with ongoing initiatives to support green development through institutional capacity building and public-private cooperation.



Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Interactive Session: Call to Action Plan

Building on the previous day's Call to Action Plan activity and reflecting on the SDG Push Model and country experiences, participants delved deeper into context-specific scenarios by exploring the SDG Push model. Those whose countries had predefined SDG Push scenarios examined the data and insights related to their national context, while participants from countries without



such scenarios analyzed potential risks and future challenges, leveraging supplementary data sources to inform their strategies.

Participants were encouraged to reflect on their proudest national achievements and areas requiring further improvement. Through this exercise, they identified specific actions aligned with their country's strategies for sustainable development. Each participant ensured that



their chosen action adhered to the SMART criteria—specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound—while completing the left-hand side of the Action Plan template. This included providing a title for their action and specifying whether it was targeted at an individual or institutional level.

The discussions reached a pivotal point when participants identified leverage points or key accelerators crucial to implementing their selected actions effectively. The exercise concluded with collaborative discussions, where participants shared insights, compared strategies, and exchanged ideas on how to optimize their countries' approaches to achieving the SDGs. This interactive method not only increased engagement but also provided a platform for countries to learn from one another's unique approaches to sustainable development.

2024 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum

Action Plan Template

Based on what you have learned in the Forum, please share an action you can take to accelerate the SDGs in your context. This template is a guide to think about follow-up and applying knowledge and lessons learned. These actions can be personal for your development or actions you can take to make a change in your institution and environment. See the examples provided below.

For questions or comments please contact your facilitator(s) in the session.

Individual or Institutional	Short-term (1-3 weeks later)	Medium-term (2-6 months later)	Long-term (1 year or more)
Example – Sharing knowledge (Institutional)	Reporting back - I will share what I learned to my team and office colleagues	I will develop a project proposal to advance an idea I learned about	I will implement a new policy in government
1.			
2.			

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Session IX: Next Steps and Call to Action - HLPF 2025, Voluntary National Reviews and data development

The session's moderator, **Mr. Friedrich Soltau**, Chief of the Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch at OISC, UNDESA, introduced the speakers. He started the session by emphasising data accountability. The country representatives present their plans for their VNRs to be presented at the 2025 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and shared insights into the data advancements and developments within their respective countries.



2025 Voluntary National Reviews

Speaker: Ms. Reverie Pure G. Sapaen, Director, Governance, National Economic Development Authority, Philippines

Ms. Sapaen's presentation highlighted the Philippines' sustainable development approach, focusing on statistical capacity, aligning national goals with global sustainability, and lessons from past VNRs. Ranked 92nd in the 2024 Sustainable Development Report, the Philippines has worked to mitigate COVID-19 impacts through initiatives like the Whole of Nation PLUS approach, which integrates government and non-government efforts for SDG progress. Key priorities include regional SDG action plans, stakeholder engagement, enhanced reporting, and data-driven policy-making, supported by investments in a centralised SDG data hub and the Community-Based Monitoring System for local-level monitoring.

Aligning the VNRs with the Pact for the

2025 VNR Matrix of the Philippines on the Pact for the Future

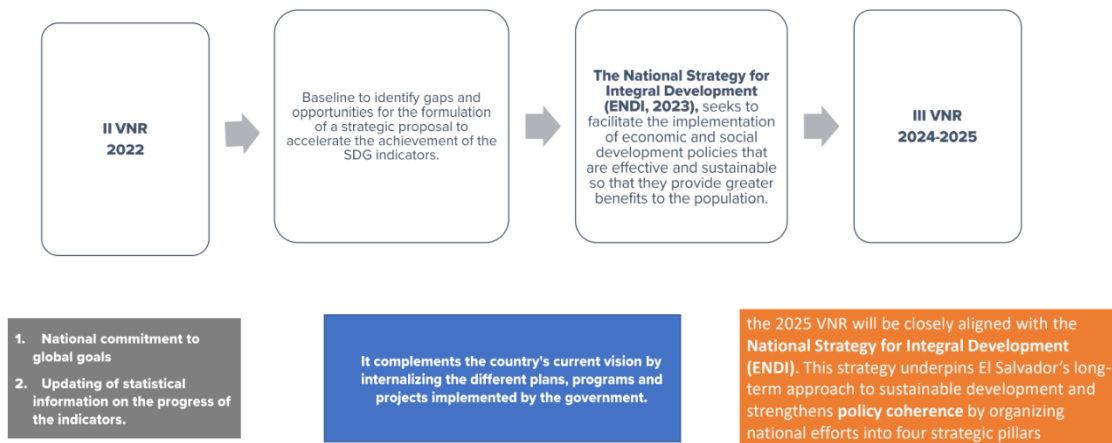
Chapter of the Pact for the Future	Outcome No.	Current Interventions (Policy, Programs, and Activities)	SDG Indicators	Ways Forward
1 Sustainable Development and Financing for Development	1-12	• Roll-out of the FY 2025 & 2026 Program Convergence Budgeting for the SDGs	1.a.1, 13.a.1, 15.a.1, 17.1.2	Expanding coverage for the earmarked excise tax revenues.
2 International Peace and Security	13 & 21	• Expanded regional cooperation with 32 countries for maritime peace.	14.c.1	Facilitate a shared platform for data on maritime activities allowing all 32 countries to monitor activities effectively.
3 Science, Technology and Innovation and Digital Cooperation	27, 28, 29, & 30	• Implementation of NIASD 2023 – 2032 and EVIDA and Formulation of the Regulatory Sandbox Policy • Implementation of green technology incentives under Tier 3 of the CREATE Law • Operationalization of Center for AI Research (CAIR) and Niche Centers in the Regions for R&D (NICER)	9.5.1 & 2, 9.a.1, b.1, c.1	Increase R&D investment and foster cross-sectoral partnerships to advance region-specific R&D, regulatory sandboxes for emerging tech, and digital transformation under CAIR 2.0, aligning with NIASD for long-term national development.
4 Youth and Future Generations	35	• Dietary supplementation for children and pregnant women	2.2.1, 2.2.2	Provide educational workshops on the importance of balanced diets and proper supplementation for mothers and caregivers.
5 Transforming Global Governance	46 & 56	• Increased efforts to provide the necessary resources in strengthening the implementation of EO No. 163, s. 2022 (Protection Services for POCs)	10.7.4, 16.1.4	Continuous support for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to its refugee response plans.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Ms. Fatima Gabriela Avelar Bonilla, Institutional Coordinator, National Council for Sustainable Development, Vice Presidency of the Republic of El Salvador.

Ms. Fatima Gabriela Avelar Bonilla presented on the country's progress in integrating its Electronic Medical Records (EMR) with national development data, marking an evolution from its first VNR in 2017 to the second in 2022. Coordinated by the National Council for Development under the Vice President, the second VNR served as a baseline to identify development gaps and opportunities, leading to the creation of El Salvador's first national strategy for development. This strategy is built on four pillars: human capacities, productive transformation, resource security, and innovation, focusing on areas like health, education, economic growth, and environmental protection. For the third VNR in 2025, El Salvador plans to align closely with this strategy to ensure coherence with national policies. Emphasising

localisation and inclusive collaboration, the country seeks active engagement from the government, civil society, the private sector, and international partners to foster a transparent and comprehensive approach to sustainable development.




Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Speaker: Mr. Jime Lhenup, Planning Officer, Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Government of Bhutan

Challenges and Climate Vulnerability

- Bhutan remains highly vulnerable to climate change impacts and natural disasters, threatening nature-dependent livelihoods and hydropower-agriculture economy.
- Maintaining carbon neutral status faces pressure to accelerate economic growth, incurring high adaptation and mitigation costs.
- Climate change poses serious threats to Bhutan's nature-dependent livelihoods and hydropower-agriculture based economy.



Bhutan's Second VNR underscores its commitment to sustainable, low-carbon development through green initiatives in tourism, agriculture, and water management. Facing climate vulnerability and the challenge of balancing economic growth with carbon neutrality, Bhutan emphasises stakeholder engagement and data management to strengthen resilience. The VNR highlights the need for inclusive participation and disaster preparedness to ensure accountable and effective SDG implementation.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Mr. Eliezer Chi, Statistician II, Statistical Institute of Belize

Mr. Eliezer Chi's presentation emphasised its commitment to sustainable development, outlining steps for future VNRs at the HLPF. Belize aims to institutionalise the VNR process, producing a national SDG report annually to track progress. Key challenges include data collection, requiring investments in the National Statistical System (BNSS) and partnerships like the Data

Ecosystem Report with the Statistical Institute of Belize. Belize is preparing a youth policy for 2025–2030 to address data gaps and align with intergenerational equity goals in the "Pact for the Future." With political support and a Medium-Term Development Strategy, Belize is working to ensure progress toward SDGs.

How can interested member states start and present their VNRs in future HLPFs?



1.) Prepare on time: For the its second VNR, Belize started preparing 1 year in advance by having consultations with the stake holders, requesting data for the SDG indicators, and early report drafting to address the major challenge: data collection.



2.) Capacity building: being part of the VNR process with the consultants hired.



3.) Strategic planning: create detailed workplans, budgets outlines, and forming a multisectoral delegation.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Country representatives: Presentation of the Call-to-Action Plan

Participants shared their presentations and resolutions developed through the interactive Call-to-Action Plan activity during the session. Three representatives from different countries reflected on their current policies, challenges, and efforts related to achieving the SDGs. They highlighted specific national strategies, areas for improvement, and successful initiatives that align with their development priorities, emphasizing collaboration and innovative approaches to drive progress.

Mr. D Emmanuel Williams II, Liberia, Director, Public Investment, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Mr. Williams discussed outlined an action plan focused on advocating for international knowledge exchange and proposing training for ministry staff to speed up SDG progress. Liberia's plan also includes coordinating with local authorities on waste management and climate awareness through community-based organisations.

Link to Presentation: [Here](#)

Ms. Mariam Mahmoud Abdel Galil Abdel Daem, Egypt, Senior Economic Researcher, Ministry of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation

Ms. Mariam Mahmoud's presentation on SDG challenges and strategies emphasised the importance of localising SDGs and addressing data discrepancies to produce national-level, evidence-based policies, with cooperation from international partners to estimate costs for achieving these goals. Integrity and performance assessment based on reliable data were underscored, alongside the difficulties of comparing data across countries.

Ms. Ana Karen Vallecillo Lizardo, Undersecretary of State, Strategic Planning Secretary, Honduras

Ms. Ana Karen Vallecillo Lizardo spoke concerning the urgent need for transformative actions to achieve the SDGs, highlighting the roles of governance, public and private investments, science and technology, and capacity building. The speaker outlined health sector reforms in Honduras, including increased budgets, a doubling of doctors, and the construction of hospitals in underserved areas. Economic efforts were also discussed, focusing on fostering import-replacement sectors and job creation through infrastructure and technology investments. She stressed the importance of structural reforms to enhance leadership and participation across all sectors, aiming for a sustainable and equitable future.

Ms. Abiodun Omowunmi Essiet, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Community Engagement, Nigeria

Nigeria underscored the pivotal role of technology in fostering a more inclusive and equitable future, with a strong emphasis on investment in capacity building and education to equip citizens with digital skills. Ms Abiodun Omowunmi Essiet highlighted innovations such as the Amber Alert system and digital banking solutions, which have significantly improved lives. She stressed the importance of developing inclusive and accessible technologies, particularly in promoting gender equality. The address concluded with a call to continue advancing technologies that empower individuals and drive sustainable development.

Discussion

During the discussion, Bhutan elaborated on its Climate Planning Fund, highlighting strategies to engage the private sector in critical areas such as hydropower, tourism, and agriculture. The discussion emphasized the importance of improving data management and technical capacity to enhance the country's climate negotiation efforts. Bhutan's response demonstrated practical approaches to leveraging its carbon sink status and strong political commitment to achieve the SDGs through targeted funding and stakeholder collaboration.

The representatives from Ecuador and Uganda raised questions about private sector involvement and data challenges. Practical advice was shared on strengthening administrative data systems and increasing demographic health surveys. Additionally, the representatives stressed the importance of government partnerships and robust national statistical systems for effective data collection. Continuing on, they highlighted the value of youth engagement in policy-making through a dedicated youth policy.

Uganda's representative contributed further by emphasizing knowledge management, benchmarking with other nations, and incorporating the private sector into sustainability initiatives. They shared insights about Uganda's [five-year SDG implementation roadmap](#), which integrates lessons learned from the forum. The discussion underscored the critical role of collaboration and planning in achieving SDG targets.

The session concluded with calls for actionable plans and feedback from participants, emphasizing the importance of applying lessons learned to enhance data collection, reporting, and stakeholder involvement in future VNRs. This collaborative exchange fostered a deeper understanding of effective strategies for advancing the SDGs across diverse contexts.

Closing Remarks

Concluding the event, **Mr. Chun Kyoo Park** offered thoughtful reflections on the critical importance of sustained focus on the SDGs. The SDTF wrapped up on a heartfelt note, leaving participants with a renewed commitment to collective action and a shared vision for sustainable development.



Annex A: Agenda

Day One Tuesday, 29 October 2024		
Time	Sessions	Objective
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00 – 9:30	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, Head, UN Office for Sustainable Development, Division for SDGs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Mr. Wansup Kim, Minister of Environment, Republic of Korea (video) Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (video) 	Introduction and opening remarks for the 10 th Sustainable Development Transformation Forum
9:30-9:45	Setting the Stage – Keynote address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Eun Mee Kim, President, Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea and Independent Group of Scientists (IGS) for the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report 	
9:45-10:00	Group Photo	
10:00 – 10:45	Reflections on the Summit of the Future Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA Q&A and Interactive discussion	Share information on the Summit of the Future and explore implications for attending Member States
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee and Networking Break	
11:00 – 12:00	Science-Policy Dialogue: How to Advance Sustainable, Inclusive, Science- and Evidence-Based Solutions Moderator: Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD, DSDG, UN DESA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA Dr. Eun Mee Kim, President, Ewha Womans University, Republic of Korea, IGS for the GSDR 2019 Ms. Nancy Shackell, Senior Research Scientist, Bedford Institute of 	This dialogue will introduce the theme and key topics under the forum, exploring relevance for participants



	<p>Oceanography, IGS for the GSDR 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dovlet Dovletallyev, Head of the Division of Monitoring the Execution of Programs for the Department of Strategic and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan • Mr. Mesuilame Maheuliuli Simote Vea, Chief Economist, Prime Minister's Office, Tonga <p>Q&A</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key challenges in integrating scientific evidence into policymaking to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals? • How effective are current policies in leveraging scientific data and knowledge to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals? • How can science-policy frameworks and dialogues be designed to ensure inclusive stakeholder engagement including underrepresented groups? • How can science-policy frameworks and dialogues address the trade-offs and synergies between different SDGs? 	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break	
Transformative Actions for the SDGs Today		
13:00 – 15:00	<p>Session I: 2024 Voluntary National Reviews – Reviewing progress for accelerating the SDGs</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Riccardo Mesiano, Deputy Head, ESCAP-ENEA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Friedrich Soltau, Chief, Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development (OISC), UNDESA • VNRs from selected 2024 Member States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Araksya Babikyan, Third Secretary, Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia ○ Mr. Nabi Nabizade, Chief Advisor, Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan ○ Mr. Steeven Gabriel Guaycha Cruz, Advisor, National Planning Secretariat, Ecuador ○ Mr. Alomlangsy Rajvong, Director of Division, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR ○ Ms. Darlyn Lucy Muloma Brima, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Sierra Leone 	<p>This session will focus on sharing current progress, actions and challenges for accelerating the SDGs today through Voluntary National Reviews</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Tawanda Chitambara, Ministry of Public Services, Labour and Social Welfare, Government of Zimbabwe <p>Q&A</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some of the common trends observed in the 2024 Voluntary National Reviews, including persistent and shared barriers, or notable stories of progress? What is the role of inclusive and solid data in the VNR process and how does science and evidence strengthen SDG review processes and beyond? What are the benefits of continued SDG progress monitoring and review especially through VNRs? 	
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee and Networking Break	
15:30 – 17:00	<p>Session II: Interactive session – Operationalizing the GSDR: Training Session on Entry Points and Levers of Transformation for the SDGs</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Astra Bonini, Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA</p> <p>Framework presentation on Entry Points and Levers by Ms. Nancy Shackell, Senior Research Scientist, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, IGS for the GSDR 2023</p> <p>Call to Action Plan – Transformation for the SDGs Exercise Part 1 of 3: Exploring the GSDR's Framework of Entry Points and Levers for Transformation at national level</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the entry points, levers and transformations under the Global Sustainable Development Report framework? How is this approach relevant for national policymakers seeking to better plan and implement policies to achieve the SDGs? What key impediments or barriers exist to advance progress on key entry points or levers? As we are now heading to a third Global Sustainable Development Report to be developed for 2027, what would some of the insights be from the previous processes that will be taken forward for this future report? 	<p>This session will provide a general understanding of the GSDR framework, including its entry points and levers, as an approach to plan and frame SDG progress today for transformations tomorrow</p>



Day Two Wednesday, 30 October 2024		
Time	Sessions	
Transformative actions for SDGs under review		
9:00 – 9:15	Opening Session – Day 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of Day 1 and Overview of Day 2 Warm-up Systems-thinking Exercise 	Participants welcomed with a review and warmup
9:15 – 10:30	Session III: Enabling Engines of Sustainable Growth (SDG 3, 5, 8, 14, & 17) Moderator: Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD, DSDG, UN DESA Overview Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Cornelia Kaldewei, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, EAPD, UN DESA (virtual) Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Least Developed Countries Section, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Q&A Exercise – Reviewing the Productive Capacities Index Guiding questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How can policymakers identify the right engines of growth to ensure national progress on the SDGs? Are current measures of growth masking key progress? What role does a middle-income trap play in hindering sustainable growth for all? What barriers and solutions exist for countries in special situations, given competing crises today to enable sustainable and especially inclusive growth? 	This session will introduce key concepts, approaches and tools for sustainable growth and key bottlenecks to ensure more effective planning for the SDGs
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee and Networking Break	
10:45 – 12:30	Session IV: From Rural Livelihoods to Rural Wellbeing: Empowering Rural Women and Communities Towards Prosperity (SDG 3, 5 & 8) Moderator: Mr. Simon Gilby, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD, DESA Introductory Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Albert Motivans, Head, Data and Insights, Equal Measures 2030 	This session will highlight rural issues in developing countries, emphasising the



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Wycliffe Alwago, Phd Fellow, UNU-WIDER • Ms. Rajvi Joshipura, Senior Coordinator, Self-Employed Womens Association (SEWA) (virtual) <p>Country Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Abiodun Essiet, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Community Engagement, Nigeria • Mr. Hugo Allan Garcia Monterrosa, Undersecretary for Strategic Development Analysis, Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency, Guatemala <p>Q&A</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the current trends in achieving progress for women and gender equality in line with SDG 5 and across the 2030 Agenda? • What barriers stand in the way and what actions can be taken to realize gender equality for greater well-being especially among vulnerable groups? • What proven solutions exist for rural prosperity and empowering rural women towards greater wellbeing? <p>Levers of Transformation – Interactive Group and Plenary Discussion, led by forum facilitators</p> <p>Participants will be divided into groups to discuss lessons learned thus far and apply these into the Call to Action Template to identify priority areas for action</p>	need to centre wellbeing and empower women.
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15:30	<p>Session V: Towards Sustainable Stewardship: Sustainable Fishing, Livelihoods and Life Under Water (SDG 8 & 14)</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Simon Gilby, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD, DESA</p> <p>Introductory Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Nancy Shackell, Senior Research Scientist, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, IGS for GSDR 2023 • Ms. Adrienne Egger, Fisheries Officer, FAO <p>Q&A</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What notable achievements and pressing challenges exist to advance progress on SDG 14 in line with sustainable livelihoods? • How are fish stocks changing across the world and what are the 	This session continues the emphasis on livelihoods and wellbeing, focusing on water and links between SDG 8 and 14.



	<p>implications for vulnerable communities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What solutions exist to ensure an optimal future for life under water and how can national policymakers enable these? <p>Levers of Transformation – Interactive Group & Plenary Discussion led by forum facilitators</p> <p>Participants will be divided into groups to discuss lessons learned thus far and apply these into the Call to Action Template to identify priority areas for action</p>	
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee and Networking Break	
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Session VI: Financing a Just Transition – Accelerating Investments for SDG Progress</p> <p>Moderator and Introductory Presentation: Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Least Developed Countries Section, UNCTAD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Jaehyuk Choi, Director for Financial Collaboration, Outreach, and Management, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) Ms. Oyun Sanjaasuren, Director, Department of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, Green Climate Fund <p>Q&A</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the current financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals and what role can climate finance play in ensuring a just transition? What key trends can be observed in terms of investment for the SDGs and green growth today? What are the bottlenecks for accelerating investments for a just transition in low- and middle-income countries? <p>Call to Action Plan – Transformation for the SDGs Exercise Part 2 of 3</p> <p>Participants will be divided into groups to discuss lessons learned thus far according to Call to Action Template to finalize their own priority area for action.</p>	<p>This session shifts the focus to delivering the resources required for ensuring the transformation needed for the achievement of the SDGs.</p>



Day Three Thursday, 31 October 2024		
Time	Sessions	
8:45 – 9:00	Opening Session – Day 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recap of Day 2 and Overview of Day 3 Warm-up Exercise 	Review of the forum thus far
9:00 – 10:30	Session VII: Fuelling Future Green Growth - Competing crises, the demographic dividend and decent jobs (SDG 3, 5, 8 & 17) Moderator: Mr. Simon Gilby, Sustainable Development Officer, UNOSD, DESA Roundtable discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Nadeeka Sudarshani Amarasinghe, Sustainable Development Council and Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies, Sri Lanka Mr. Wycliffe Alwago, Phd Fellow, UNU-WIDER Mr. Edward Bruce-Lyle, Senior Planning Analyst, National Development Planning Commission, Ghana Mr. Stefan Csordas, Economic Affairs Officer, Least Developed Countries Section, UNCTAD Ms. Adrienne Egger, Fisheries Officer, FAO Mr. Albert Motivans, Head, Data and Insights, Equal Measures 2030 Q&A Guiding Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What key crises will hold back green growth in the context of low and middle-income countries? What implications does a demographic dividend have on future SDG progress, given current the role of crises in slowing growth? How can proven solutions around women's economic inclusion, decent jobs and targeted investments have on future well-being and green growth? What is the role of science and evidence-based policy in overcoming competing crises and their future implications? 	This session will explore the future trends expected across key goals and wider implications and insights for future scenarios to improve decision making today
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee and Networking Break	
11:00 – 12:30	Session VIII: Fuelling Future Growth for an SDG Push – Charting pathways towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Facilitator: Ms. Sara Castro de Hallgren, UNOSD, DSDG, DESA Identifying national <u>SDG insights based on integrated accelerators</u> across Governance, Social Protection, Green Economy and Digital Disruption	Participants will explore the SDG Push scenario model and how data and scenario-thinking can be applied for



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Laurel Patterson, Head, Sustainable Development Goal Integration, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - virtual <p>Country Cases</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Omar Herrera, Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, Dominican Republic Ms. Rachelle Ida Yapo, Director of Sustainable Development Policies and Strategies, Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, Côte D'Ivoire Mr. Mahvash Majonova, Coordinator for SDG 3, Secretariat for the National Development Council under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan <p>Call to Action Plan – Transformation for the SDGs Exercise Part 3 of 3 Based on priority identified on day 2, participants will leverage data for SDG insights, future scenarios, and leverage points to improve planning and decision-making for their priority action</p> <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is role of data and science in strengthening planning, investment and policy leadership for future progress on sustainable development? What common and accessible tools or approaches exist to inform future scenarios for the SDGs? What role do key accelerators or leverage points identified today play in advancing future progress the SDGs? 	<p>improved planning and insights to accelerate the SDGs. Participants will divide into group to identify key data and leverage points for their scenarios.</p>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15:30	<p>Session IX: Next Steps and Call to Action - HLPF 2025, Voluntary National Reviews and data development Moderator: Mr. Fred Soltau, Chief, Intergovernmental Policy and Review Branch, OISC, UNDESA</p> <p>HLPF 2025 and next steps – Mr. Fred Soltau, Chief, IPRB, OISC, UN DESA</p> <p>2025 Voluntary National Reviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Reverie Pure G. Sapaen, Director, Governance, National Economic Development Authority, Philippines Ms. Fatima Gabriela Avelar Bonilla, Institutional Coordinator, National Council for Sustainable Development, Vicepresidency of the Republic of El Salvador Mr. Jime Lhendup, Planning Officer, Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Government of Bhutan 	<p>This session will introduce the HLPF 2025 in the context of the Summit of the Future and discuss potential lessons and priorities for 2025 Voluntary National Reviews</p>



	<p>Discussant: Mr. Eliezer Chi, Statistician II, Statistical Institute of Belize</p> <p>Country representatives: Presentation of the Call to Action Plan</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the next steps for HLPF 2025 and Voluntary National Review processes in 2025 and beyond? • How can investments in data today strengthen SDG review and progress in the future? • How can interested member states start and present their VNRs in future HLPFs? • As HLPF 2025 is the first after the adoption of the Pact for the Future, how can future VNR's align with inter-generational equity and the Pact's outcomes? 	
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee and Networking Break	
16:00 – 17:00	<p>Forum Closing Session</p> <p>Presentation of the key messages – rapporteurs</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p>	



Annex B: Forum Participant List

Country Representatives					
Country	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Ministry/Organization	Title
Angola	Mr.	Hamilton Manuel	Fernando	Senior Technician, Ministry of Planning	Senior Technician
Armenia	Ms.	Araksya	Babikyan	Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia	Third Secretary
Azerbaijan	Mr.	Nabi	Nabizade	Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan	Chief Advisor
Belize	Mr.	Eliezer David	Chi	Statistical Institute of Belize	Statistician II
Benin	Mr.	Anicet Camille	Sevoh	Ministry of Development and Coordination of Government Action	Director of Sustainable Development Goals Policy Coordination
Bhutan	Mr.	Jigme	Lhendup	Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Government of Bhutan	Planning Officer
Burundi	Mr.	Benoit	Harerimana	Ministry of Finance, Budget, and Economic Planning	Head of Strategic Planning
Côte D'Ivoire	Ms.	Rachelle Ida	Yapo Epse Yapo	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Director of Sustainable Development Policies and Strategies
Dominican Republic	Mr.	Omar Aquiles	Herrera Camacho	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development	Sector Specialist



Ecuador	Mr	Steeven Gabriel	Guaycha Cruz	Secretaría Nacional de Planificación	Advisor
Egypt	Ms.	Mariam	Mahmoud Abdel Galil Abdel Daiem	Ministry of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation	Senior Economic Researcher
El Salvador	Ms.	Fatima Gabriela	Avelar Bonilla	National Council for Sustainable Development/ Vicepresidency of the Republic of El Salvador	Institutional Coordinator
Equatorial Guinea	Mr.	German Euka	Sima Abaga	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Equatorial Guinea	Director General for International Organizations
Eswatini	Ms.	Nonhlanhla	Shongwe	Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	Senior Economist
Guatemala	Mr.	Hugo Allan	Garcia Monterrosa	Secretaría de Planificación y Programación de la Presidencia	Subsecretario de Análisis Estratégico del Desarrollo
Honduras	Ms.	Ana Karen	Vallecillo Lizardo	Secretaria de Planificación Estratégica	Subsecretaria de Estado
Kenya	Mr.	William Nzioki	Komu	The National Treasury Economic Planning, State Department for Economic Planning	Chief Economist
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Mr.	Alomlangsy	Rajvong	Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR	Director of Division
Lesotho	Ms.	Marethabile	Tsoeu	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	Senior Economic Planner
Liberia	Mr.	D Emmanuel	Williams II	Public Investment, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning	Director



Libya	Mr.	Mohamed Saleh	Elzagalmi	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of State of Libya	Senior Officer
Madagascar	Mr.	Tina Silly Jerison	Ratsialainkery	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Director of the Promotion of Research and Integration of the Sustainable Development Approach
Malawi	Mr.	Kumbukani	Ng'ambi	Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Planning and Development	Deputy Director
Malaysia	Mr.	Ahmad	Azimeer Bin Abdul Manaf	National SDG Centre, Ministry of Economy	Deputy Director II
Mali	Mr.	Mamadou	Camara	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali	Foreign Affairs Advisor
Morocco	Mr.	Moulay Slimane	Maliki	Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development	Head of the Interministerial Planning and Coordination Service
Mozambique	Mr.	Angelo de Arcanjos Messias	Ferreira	Ministry of Economic and Finance	Head of Department of Economic Policy
Myanmar	Ms.	Thway Thway	Chit	Planning Department, Ministry of Planning and Finance, Myanmar	Director General
Nigeria	Ms.	Abiodun Omowunmi	Essiet	President on Community Engagement	Senior Special Assistant
Philippines	Ms.	Diane Gail Llanto	Maharjan	National Economic and Development Authority	Director IV
Sierra Leone	Ms.	Darlyn Lucy Muloma	Brima	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Republic of Sierra Leone	Senior Assistant Secretary



Sri Lanka	Ms.	Nadeeka Sudarshani	Amarasinghe	Sustainable Development Council of Sri Lanka, Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies	Assistant Director
Tajikistan	Mr.	Mahvash	Majonova	Secretariat for the National Development Council under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan	Coordinator for SDG 3
Tongan	Mr.	Mesuilame Maheuliuli Simote	Vea	Prime Minister's Office	Chief Economist
Turkmenistan	Mr.	Dovlet	Dovletalyev	Ministry of Finance and Economy	Head of the Division of Monitoring the Execution of Programs for the Department of Strategic and Sustainable Development
Uganda	Mr.	Onesmus	Kansiime	National Sustainable Development Goals Secretariat, Office of the Prime Minister of Republic of Uganda	Senior Officer Knowledge Management and Communications
Vietnam	Ms.	Nguyen	Thi Thanh Nga	Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources, and Environment (DSENRE) of the Ministry of Planning and Investment	Senior Official
Zimbabwe	Mr.	Tawanda	Chitambara	Ministry of Public Services, Labour and Social Welfare, Government of Zimbabwe	Sustainable Development Officer



Speakers, International Organizations and the United Nations

Organization/Entity	Mr/Ms	First Name	Last Name	Title
United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)	Mr.	Wycliffe Obwori	Alwago	Visiting Fellow
Integrated Policy Analysis Branch of DSDG, UNDESA	Ms.	Astra	Bonini	Chief of Service, Sustainable Development
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)	Mr.	Jaehyuk	Choi	Director for Financial Collaboration, Outreach and Management
UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Mr.	Stefan	Csordas	Economic Affairs Officer
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Ms.	Adrienne	Egger	Fishery Officer
Ewha Womens University	Ms.	Eun Mee	Kim	President
Equal Measures 2030	Mr	Albert	Motivans	Head of Data and Insights
Department of Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, Green Climate Fund (GCF)	Ms.	Oyun	Sanjaasuren	Director



Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Fisheries and Oceans, Canada	Ms.	Nancy Louise	Shackell	Senior Research Scientist
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