



UN-DESA Division for Sustainable Development

**Advancing the 2030 Agenda: Interlinkages and Common Themes at the HLPF 2018**

*An expert group meeting in preparation for HLPF 2018:  
Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies*

**25-26 January 2018**

United Nations Headquarters, New York  
Room S-2726

DAY 1	
Time	Session
9:00-9:30	<p>SESSION 1</p> <p><b>Welcome and setting the stage</b> Shantanu Mukherjee, Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, UN-DESA</p>
9:30-11:15	<p>SESSION 2</p> <p><b>SDG interlinkages: the state of the art in analysis, engagement and implementation</b></p> <p><i>The High Level Political Forum 2018 is organized under the theme of ‘transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies’ and will feature the first in-depth review of SDGs 6 (water and sanitation), 7 (energy), 11 (cities and human settlements), 12 (sustainable consumption and production) and 15 (terrestrial ecosystems); along with SDG 17 (means of implementation) which is reviewed each year.</i></p> <p><i>The existence of interlinkages between SDG goals and targets is well recognised. SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15 are interlinked in various ways to each other, as well as to the other goals and targets. This opening session will review some of the tools and approaches that help translate the understanding of these interlinkages into effective guidance for policies, programmes and stakeholder engagement.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG Network and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, Bangladesh</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Måns Nilsson, Research Director and Deputy Director, Stockholm Environment Institute</li> <li>• Anne Guerry, Lead Scientist and Chief Strategy Officer, Natural Capital Project, Stanford University</li> <li>• Barry B. Hughes, Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures, University of Denver</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Hardy, Millennium Institute, iSDG model</li> </ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Fatima Denton, Director, Special Initiatives Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Africa (ECA)</p>
11:15-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	<p>SESSION 3</p> <p><b>SDG 6: Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</b></p> <p><i>The interlinkages between this goal and the other SDGs have concrete implications for framing and implementing policies, programmes and collaborations – with significant variations across regions. Understanding these implications as well as how to leverage them effectively can help mitigate trade-offs and maximise synergies with other goals and targets.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Peter Messerli, Director, Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern and co-Chair, Independent Group of Scientists for the Global Sustainable Development Report, 2019</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isha Ray, Associate Professor, University of California, Berkeley, co-Director, Berkeley Water Center</li> <li>• Lesha Witmer, Women for Water Partnership</li> <li>• Felix Dodds, Senior Fellow, Global Research Institute, and Co-Director of the 2014 Nexus Conference on Water, Food, Energy and Climate</li> <li>• Aneta Nikolova, Environmental Affairs Officer, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</li> </ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Verena Klinger-Dering, Counsellor for Sustainable Development at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	<p>SESSION 4</p> <p><b>SDG 15: Protecting and sustainably managing terrestrial ecosystems and forests; combatting desertification; reversing land degradation and halting biodiversity loss</b></p> <p><i>The interlinkages between this goal and the other SDGs have concrete implications for framing and implementing policies, programmes and collaborations – with significant variations across regions. Understanding these implications as well as how to leverage them effectively can help mitigate trade-offs and maximise synergies with other goals and targets.</i></p>



	<p><u>Moderator:</u> Mildred Crawford, Jamaica Network of Rural Women Producers and Co-Chair of GAP Farmers</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ingrid J. Visseren-Hamakers, Associate Professor, Environmental Science and policy, George Mason University</li><li>• Katia Araujo, Director of Advocacy, LANDESA</li><li>• Romy Chevallier, Governance of Africa’s Resources Programme, South African Institute of International Affairs</li><li>• Vijay Modi, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, SEAS Faculty, Earth Institute and Data Science Institute, Columbia University</li></ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Thais Linhares, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO</p>
16:00-16:15	Coffee break
16:15-17:45	<p>SESSION 5</p> <p><b>SDG 7: Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</b></p> <p><i>The interlinkages between this goal and the other SDGs have concrete implications for framing and implementing policies, programmes and collaborations – with significant variations across regions. Understanding these implications as well as how to leverage them effectively can help mitigate trade-offs and maximise synergies with other goals and targets.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Rana Gohneim, Industrial Development Officer, UNIDO</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Youba Sokona, Special Adviser on Sustainable Development, the South Centre, Geneva and former Vice Chair, IPCC</li><li>• Yera Ortiz de Urbina, International Renewable Energy Agency, New York</li><li>• Isabella Alloisio, Research Associate, Florence School of Regulation of the European University Institute, Florence, Italy</li><li>• Rebecca Pearl-Martinez, Energy, Climate, and Gender Consultant</li></ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Karin Fernando, Center for Poverty Analysis, Sri Lanka</p>



DAY 2	
Time	Session
9:00-9:30	<p>SESSION 6</p> <p><b>Recap and outline of key messages from Day 1</b> Tonya Vaturi, Policy and Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development, UN-DESA</p>
9:30-11:00	<p>SESSION 7</p> <p><b>SDG 11: Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b></p> <p><i>The interlinkages between this goal and the other SDGs have concrete implications for framing and implementing policies, programmes and collaborations – with significant variations across regions. Understanding these implications as well as how to leverage them effectively can help mitigate trade-offs and maximise synergies with other goals and targets.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Andrew Rudd, Urban Environment Officer, UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tony Wong, Chief Executive, Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities</li><li>• Jose Viera, World Blind Union, Human Rights and Development Policy Advisor</li><li>• Maruxa Cardama, Urban Advisor, Cities Alliance</li><li>• Allan Lavell, Coordinator of the Programme for the Social Study of Disaster Risk and Climate Change Adaptation, Secretariat General's Office of the Latin American Social Science Faculty-FLACSO</li></ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Carol Chouchani Cherrane, Chief, Water Resources Section, Sustainable Development Policies Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)</p>
11:00-11:15	Coffee break
11:15-12:45	<p>SESSION 8</p> <p><b>SDG 12: Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns</b></p> <p><i>The interlinkages between this goal and the other SDGs have concrete implications for framing and implementing policies, programmes and collaborations – with significant variations across regions. Understanding these implications as well as how to leverage them effectively can help mitigate trade-offs and maximise synergies with other goals and targets.</i></p>

	<p><u>Moderator:</u> Susan Bragdon, Representative for Food and Sustainability, Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charles Arden-Clarke, Head, 10YFP Secretariat, UNEP</li> <li>• Jes Weigelt, Head of Programmes, Think Tank for Sustainability</li> <li>• Loraine Gatlabayan, Secretary-General of Board of Trustees of Asia-Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production</li> <li>• Rafael Flor, Director, YieldWise, The Rockefeller Foundation</li> </ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Amr Nour, Director, United Nations Regional Commissions Office, New York</p>
12:45-14:15	Lunch
14:15-15:45	<p>SESSION 9</p> <p><b>Overcoming shared challenges: Data availability, financing, capacity and STI</b></p> <p><i>The SDGs in focus at the HLPF 2018 share some common challenges – data availability and quality are uneven (including for several targets falling due in 2020); a significant portion of the necessary investments are related to resilient and inclusive infrastructure; new technologies offer great potential but may also face specific hurdles in being adopted; and more research is needed to support implementation.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Jordan Naidoo, Director, Division of Education 2030 Support and Coordination, UNESCO</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Janet Ranganathan, Vice President for Science and Research, World Resources Institute</li> <li>• Eric Sanderson, Senior Conservation Ecologist, Wildlife Conservation Society</li> <li>• Pedro Conceicao, Director of Strategic Policy, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP</li> <li>• Zhou Taidong, Head of Global Development Division of China Center for International Knowledge on Development (CIKD)</li> </ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Leulseged T. Abebe, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Ethiopia</p>
15:45-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:30	<p>SESSION 10</p> <p><b>Ensuring inclusion, resilience and sustainability</b></p>

	<p><i>The SDGs in focus at the HLPF 2018 are central to achieving the overarching aspirations of the Agenda 2030. The specific ways in which universal access is extended, measures for resilience incorporated and sustainability ensured for these goals and targets can significantly impact how these aspirations are met for the all of Agenda 2030.</i></p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Easton Williams Director, Social Policy, Planning and Research Division, Planning Institute of Jamaica</p> <p><u>Lead presenters:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Stachel, Co-Founder and Executive Director, WeCareSolar</li> <li>• Joan Carling, Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education - Tebtebba Foundation</li> <li>• Parfait Eloundou-Enyegue, Professor and Department Chair, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University, Member, Independent Group of Scientists for the Global Sustainable Development Report, 2019</li> <li>• Susan Nicolai, Senior Research Fellow, Growth, Poverty and Inequality, Overseas Development Institute</li> </ul> <p><u>Lead discussant:</u> Maren Andrea Jiménez, Social Affairs Officer, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN-DESA</p>
17:30-18:00	<p>Session 11</p> <p><b>Closing and next steps</b> Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)</p>