Inputs and Outcomes of the High-Level Political Forum: Major Groups and other Stakeholders

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

3 April 2019
During the HLPF, a set of SDGs are reviewed in-depth, as well as cross-cutting issues (such as leaving no one behind), and interlinkages between the goals and around the theme of the forum. There are a number of processes and meetings that feed into this thematic review.
A series of Expert Group Meetings are convened on each of the SDGs under in-depth review (as well as on interlinkages) to inform the HLPF’s deliberations.

These meetings are organized by DESA in collaboration with relevant UN-system entities and other partners.
Stakeholders E-Consultation on the SDGs under in-depth review

- The Stakeholder E-Consultation serves to improve stakeholders’ access to information and promote broad and participatory engagement on the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda implementation.

- The consultations complement/feed into other on-going processes for the SDG-specific reviews, including Expert Group Meetings (EGMs).
Regional Preparations

Each region hosts a regional sustainable development forum. These forums help to collect inputs from the local, national, and regional level, and serve as important inputs to the deliberations at the global HLPF in New York.
Secretary General’s SDG Progress Report

- The annual Sustainable Development Goals Report provides an overview of the world’s implementation efforts to date, highlighting areas of progress and areas where more action needs to be taken to ensure no one is left behind.

- It reviews all 17 SDGs with the latest available data, and examines some of the interconnections and trends across Goals and targets.
Inputs from UN system

• Upon invitation by the President of ECOSOC, 50 inputs have been provided to the 2019 HLPF from the ECOSOC Functional Commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums.

• All inputs are posted online at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/. They will be included in a synthesis – the HLPF official document which will be available by the end of May.

• The report of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP), and the outcomes of the UN Environmental Assembly (UNEA), the UN Human Rights Council Intersessional Meeting, and the Regional Sustainable Development Forums will be presented during the HLPF and the High-Level segment of ECOSOC.
Background Notes on SDGs and theme of HLPF

- Provide an in-depth assessment of specific goals and theme which will be reviewed at the HLPF
- Draw from outcomes of Expert Group Meetings
- Include key challenges and recommendations for action
- Often developed in partnership with different UN agencies

2018 Review of SDGs implementation: SDG 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

The pledge of Goal 11 to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable provides an unparalleled opportunity for the attainment of collective and inclusive progress, and for the achievement of sustainable development in the world.

Since 2015, SDG 11 has catalyzed collaboration and partnerships between diverse groups of stakeholders at the local level, and between local, regional, and national governments. However, cities and regions continue to struggle with providing adequate housing, services, and infrastructure, especially in light of the increasing global incidence of natural disasters. A number of challenges in data availability to track progress towards implementation of SDG 11 also present significant barriers to assessing global progress on the goal.
Inputs from Major Groups and other Stakeholders – Sectoral Position Papers

• The nine major groups and other stakeholder organizations are invited to submit coordinated sectoral position papers related to the theme of the HLPF and the SDGs under in-depth review.

• These are official inputs to the HLPF, and the executive summaries of all submitted papers are translated into the six official UN languages.

• The papers are coordinated by each MGoS Constituencies’ organizing partners. A list of these partners and their contact information can be found here.

• Can be found under “inputs” to the HLPF: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/
Paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda calls for Major Groups and other relevant Stakeholders, “to report on their contribution to the implementation of the Agenda”

These are not official documents of the HLPF, but they are posted on the HLPF website under inputs (as long as they do not include characteristics of a “shadow” report)

Some incentives to produce a report include:

- Supporting coordination (global, regional, national, local) and partnerships
- Providing a fuller picture of SDG implementation, including supplementing national data
- Raises awareness of the SDGs and an organization’s mission
- Provides an opportunity for peer learning
- Provides a tool for accountability (for both the government and MGoS)

More information on reporting by MGoS on their contribution to the 2030 Agenda can be found here
VNR Main Messages

• In addition to the official reports, VNR countries have also been asked to submit in advance separate documents highlighting the “main messages” of their reports. (due by mid-May)

• These main messages are translated into the 6 official UN languages and are a good resource to quickly find information about a country’s VNR
Outcomes of the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC

- The main outcome of the annual HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC is an intergovernmentally negotiated Ministerial Declaration.
- The Ministerial Declaration aims to capture the main messages from the HLPF and its findings on progress towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
- The ECOSOC President’s summary also covers details of discussions in the forum.
Global Sustainable Development Report

- The Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) is a United Nations publication which aims to strengthen the science-policy interface and serve as an evidence-based instrument to support policy-makers at the HLPF. It is published every 4 years.

- Extensive inputs are sought from the UN system, including the Regional Commissions, scientists, government officials and stakeholders at all levels.

- The GSDR is prepared by an independent group of scientists.

- The 2019 edition will be launched to inform the UN SDG Summit in September.

- For more information: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/globalsdreport/
The General Assembly in its resolution 70/299 decided that the HLPF shall have **only one negotiated Political Declaration**, covering the different and complementary functions of both sessions of the forum when the HLPF is convened twice in the same year.

The Permanent Representatives of the Bahamas and Sweden serve as co-facilitators to consult with Member States in an open, inclusive and transparent manner in order to develop the Political Declaration for the 2019 SDG Summit. The aim is to have a short and concise political message.

In addition, the SDG Summit will also encourage **voluntary commitments** by governments and all stakeholders to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to be announced before or during the summit.
Resources

- HLPF website: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf
- All inputs to the HLPF: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/
- Handbook for VNR Preparations
- Q&A for VNRS at the 2019 HLPF
- HLPF VNR database https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/
- SDG Summit website: http://www.un.org/sdgsummit
- Register to join the Major Groups and other Stakeholders HLPF Coordination Mechanism here
DESA will host one more webinar for Major Groups and other Stakeholders in preparation for the 2019 HLPF on the topic of:

- **Opportunities for attendance and participation at the HLPF (in May)**
Thank you!

We look forward to your participation!
For the latest information and to register (15 April 2019),
visit https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2019
Contact link on website